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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Proceeding	91125615
Party	Plaintiff UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA,

Opposer,

v.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

Applicant.

Opposition No. 91125615

Serial No. 75/358,031

Mark: **SC (Stylized)**

Filed: September 16, 1997

Published: May 18, 1999

**OPPOSER'S NOTICE OF RELIANCE NO. 6
ON PRINTED PUBLICATIONS FROM 1996**

Opposer the University of Southern California ("Opposer" or "California") hereby introduces into evidence by this Notice of Reliance articles from various periodicals published in 1996. The attached evidence demonstrates that California was widely referred to in articles as "SC" as a means of identifying California in oral as well as written contexts prior to the filing of Applicant the University of South Carolina's SC trademark application in 1997. In other words, these articles not only demonstrate that the press and public widely referred to the University of Southern California as "SC" but they did so frequently in a verbal form (*i.e.* as if spoken using the letters "SC").

A party to an inter partes proceeding before the Board may introduce printed publications, such as periodicals and books, available to the general public in libraries or of general circulation among members of the public as part of its evidence in the case by means of a notice of reliance. 37 C.F.R. § 2.122(e) and TBMP § 704.07. In lieu of the actual official record, the TBMP also provides that an electronically generated document (or copy thereof),

which is the equivalent of the official record, such as a NEXIS printout, may accompany the notice of reliance. *See* TBMP § 704.08.

Attached as Opposer's Exhibits 163 - 192 are true and correct copies of the following NEXIS printouts of various newspaper articles from 1996:

Opposer's Ex. No.	Description
163	01/02/1996 article from the <i>Star Tribune</i> entitled "A hard landing for high-flying Wildcats"
164	01/02/1996 article from the <i>Daily News</i> entitled "Wild Ride Ends for Wildcats USC Earns Respect"
165	02/19/1996 article from <i>Sports Illustrated</i> entitled "Freedom of Choice"
166	03/09/1996 article from the <i>Seattle Times</i> entitled "Huskies Have Eye on NIT"
167	05/31/1996 article from the <i>Omaha World Herald</i> entitled "Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders "
168	06/04/1996 article from the <i>San Antonio Express-News</i> entitled "Golf"
169	06/28/1996 article from the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> entitled "Jim Murray; He's Taking Diplomatic Stance Now"
170	08/09/1996 article from the <i>Chicago Sun-Times</i> entitled "Huskers now find titles easy as 1-2-3; Nebraska, FSU again top Sun-Times picks"
171	08/18/1996 article from <i>The Record</i> entitled "The Trojan War; Giants Sehorn vs. Jets Johnson USC Stars Finally Collide"
172	08/26/1996 article from the <i>Daily News</i> entitled "Paterno Plays It Safe With Richardson"
173	09/11/1996 article from the <i>Daily News</i> entitled "Key's Got Lott To Learn Ronnie: Put A Lid On It"
174	10/06/1996 article from <i>Charlotte Observer</i> entitled "California Knocks Off Trojans"
175	10/06/1996 article from <i>The Austin American-Statesman</i> entitled "Cal knocks off No. 17 Trojans"

Opposer's Ex. No.	Description
176	10/09/1996 article from the <i>Seattle Post-Intelligencer</i> entitled "Trojans Feel Squeeze from Investigations"
177	10/13/1996 article in the <i>Chicago Tribune</i> entitled "Coach's Dreams for Cal are Vivid"
178	10/28/1996 article in the <i>Lewiston Morning Tribune</i> entitled "The revival of Student Body left; It's just part of the growing number of fads coming back"
179	11/25/1996 article in <i>The Associated Press</i> entitled "Finally, Just Football for Notre Dame"
180	11/25/1996 article in <i>The Associated Press</i> entitled "Bruins Refuse to Lose to Trojans"
181	11/25/1996 article in <i>The Sporting News</i> entitled "Caught on the Fly; Shut up and deal"
182	11/27/1996 article in the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> entitled "Robinson: Judge me on big USC picture; Trojans: Coach says Notre Dame game shouldn't be make-or-break. Some players say they might leave if he goes."
183	11/28/1996 article in the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> entitled "College football daily report; USC; Keyshawn stands behind Robinson"
184	11/28/1996 article in <i>The Houston Chronicle</i> entitled "Fisher top candidate if job opens at USC"
185	11/30/1996 article in the <i>St. Petersburg Times</i> entitled "Rocks and hard places take a toll"
186	12/01/1996 article in the <i>Press Enterprise</i> entitled "Day of Otton-ment for USC; The QB comes to the rescue of the Trojans and their coach, beating Notre Dame"
187	12/2/1996 article in the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> entitled "Mike Downey; Trojan Happiness Arrives on Schedule"
188	12/03/1996 article in <i>The Orange County Register</i> entitled "USC president says he never considered firing John Robinson"
189	12/05/1996 article in the <i>Orlando Sentinel</i> entitled "Elway helps Broncos focus on a title run"
190	12/07/1996 article in the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> entitled "Notre Dame streak no longer dogs USC"

Opposer's Ex. No.	Description
191	12/09/1996 article in the <i>Orange County Register</i> entitled "UCLA stuns USC to win NCAA water polo championship; Colleges: Bruins goalkeeper Swanson makes 14 saves to spark an 8-7 upset victory over the top-ranked Trojans"
192	12/31/1996 article in the <i>Orange County Register</i> entitled "Raising Arizona (State); College Football: Von der Ahe has helped the Suns Devils' rise to national prominence"

As the pages attached as Opposer's Exhibits 163 - 192 are thirty (30) newspaper articles printed from NEXIS, and the contents are not reasonably subject to dispute and are moreover capable of immediate and accurate determination, the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 2.122(e) and TBMP § 704.07 are satisfied.

Dated: January 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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FOCUS - 119 of 574 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 Star Tribune
Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

January 2, 1996, Metro Edition

SECTION: Sports; Patrick Reusse; Pg. 1C

LENGTH: 880 words

HEADLINE: A hard landing for high-flying Wildcats

BYLINE: Patrick Reusse; Staff Writer

DATELINE: Pasadena, Calif.

BODY:

A flight from Phoenix landed at the Burbank airport Monday morning filled with long-ago-graduated Northwestern alumni, wearing purple sweaters, shirts and hats. These were strangers united in the Wildcats' cause, talking up the wonder of this Rose Bowl appearance.

On arrival, the passengers moved into the aisles and started to disembark. One gray-haired, purple-wearing gentleman looked at a group of Northwestern people he had met on the plane and said:

"We'll probably see you on this flight again next year."

There was a burst of laughter from all the Northwestern fans within earshot, proving they had maintained a sense of humor about the decades their Wildcats had spent in football's wilderness.

Northwestern in the Rose Bowl? You saw the amazing scores roll in throughout the autumn. You saw the Big Ten standings that, under W-L-T, had Northwestern listed at 8-0-0. You saw the Associated Press ratings that had Northwestern listed No. 3, behind Nebraska and Florida.

You saw all that, and still thought it had to be a hoax, until you looked at the Rose Bowl's south end zone on this spectacular winter afternoon and there it was: The word "Northwestern," painted in white, on a purple background.

The Wildcats were here. The pitiable, scorned, embarrassing Wildcats had made it to the Rose Bowl.

They had made their only previous appearance in Pasadena, in any bowl, in January 1949. Northwestern's miraculous, perfect run through the Big Ten this season leaves the Minnesota Golden Roadkill as the team that has been away from the Rose Bowl the longest (January 1962).

Monday, it didn't take long for the Northwestern jokes to start flying again. After a quarter century, making fun of the Mildcats can be a hard habit to break.

Southern Cal, considered a so-so Pac-10 representative with its 8-2-1 record, was leading 24-10 at halftime. A Northwestern defense that had held eight Big Ten opponents to a total of 89 points was being shredded by the passing of Brad Otton, a junior transfer from Weber State.

The Wildcats were most proud of their secondary, with the outstanding cornerbacks - Hudhaifa Ismaeli, Rodney Ray and Chris Martin. Southern Cal's Keyshawn Johnson, a receiver destined to break any NFL record Cris Carter might today be whining about, tore up those corners for eight catches and 124 yards in the first half.

The drama hanging over this game involved UCLA's attempt to persuade Gary Barnett, the creator of the Northwestern miracle, to replace Terry Donahue as its coach.

A hard landing for high-flying Wildcats Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN) J

So, the question at halftime was this: "Donahue beat Southern Cal the last five times he played it. Why would UCLA want to hire a coach who can't beat SC?"

The reasons became obvious to the 100,000 people inside the Rose Bowl in the second half as Northwestern rallied.

The Wildcats kicked a field goal. Then they recovered an onside kick. Three minutes later, Darnell Autry cut powerfully through a mass of potential tacklers and sprinted 9 yards for a touchdown. The SC lead was 24-19.

Johnson came back to hit the Wildcats for a 56-yard touchdown. "I played him to the outside and he beat me to the inside," Ismaeli said.

Is Johnson the best receiver you've seen? "Yeah, he's decent," Ismaeli said.

Johnson wound up with 12 catches for a Rose Bowl-record 216 yards. This caused him to pose a question to a pair of reporters after the game:

"If I'm not the best college football player in the country, who is?"

Johnson's greatness could not take the heart out of the Wildcats. They kept coming back. Autry's 2-yard burst put Northwestern ahead 32-31 2 minutes into the fourth quarter.

"I was excited that it put us ahead - that we had fought back," Autry said. "But I knew we were going to have to come back again. I knew I wasn't going to be able to go over to the bench and drink water for the rest of the game."

The Northwestern defense had given up a total of only 21 points in the second halves of its last nine games. But what Autry and everyone else in the Rose Bowl knew by the fourth quarter was that the Wildcats could not stop Otton's passing and Johnson's catching.

Southern Cal drove and went ahead 34-32 on Adam Abrams' field goal. The Wildcats still were in good shape. They had allowed Southern Cal to commit all the penalties in the second half - eight, for 71 yards.

That changed on the kickoff. An overzealous Tucker Morrison was guilty of a personal foul, and Northwestern had to start at its 23 rather than the 42.

Five plays later, quarterback Steve Schnur threw too high for Matt Hartl. The pass hit Jesse Davis, an SC safety, in the stomach. The Trojans went from there to the touchdown that clinched a 41-32 victory - putting Northwestern's record at 10-2, precisely the number of victories our guy Dennis Green had in five seasons there.

"I plain overthrew that guy," Schnur said. "It was nice to get a chance to throw the ball [23 of 39] in this game, but I would have preferred throwing no passes and getting a win."

Ismaeli was more melancholy. To the first several questions, he answered: "The sun has fallen."

Will it rise again some day? "Maybe," he said.

GRAPHIC: Photograph

LOAD-DATE: January 8, 1996

FOCUS - 117 of 574 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 Daily News, L.P.
Daily News (New York)

January 02, 1996, Tuesday

SECTION: Sports; Pg. 45

LENGTH: 565 words

HEADLINE: WILD RIDE ENDS FOR WILDCATS USC EARNS RESPECT

BYLINE: BY DICK WEISS

BODY:

PASADENA There was another team in the 82d annual Rose Bowl, after all.

The Northwestern Wildcats got celebrity treatment during the two weeks they spent out here, appearing with Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show" and meeting movie stars like Charlton Heston.

But, in the end, it was Southern California's much maligned Trojans who were left smelling the roses following an impressive 41-32 victory before a sellout crowd of 100,102.

"I still have a lot of bruises and my players still have bruises on their toes from all the media stepping on them to get to the other guys," USC coach John Robinson said. "If the media wants to ignore us, that's OK with us."

The media had painted USC's 8-2-1 season as a failure when the Trojans picked by some to win the national title lost to Notre Dame and UCLA. But the Trojans scorched the Big Ten champs with big plays and torched the Wildcats' secondary with a devastating passing game.

Quarterback Brad Otton who played the entire game instead of splitting time, as usual, with Kyle Wacholtz completed 29-of-41 passes for 391 yards and two touchdowns. USC's outstanding All-America wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson had 12 catches for 216 yards and 1 touchdown, a 56-yard streak that gave SC a 31-19 lead midway through the third quarter.

"This was my last game as a Trojan," Johnson said. "And we had something to prove to the world. Everybody seemed to want to eat grapes, all of a sudden. This was Purple this and Purple that. And no one wanted to give us any respect."

USC earned it the hard way. It jumped on Northwestern (10-2) early, cruising to a 24-7 lead, then weathered a furious rally by the 'Cats, who actually took a 32-31 lead when sophomore tailback Darnell Autry who rushed for 110 yards and scored 3 TDs scored on a 2-yard run with 13:01 to play.

But there were only so many miracles to go around in this dream season. Adam Abrams whose previous long field goal was 41 yards kicked a 46-yarder with 9:09 remaining to send the Trojans back ahead, 34-32. And finally, USC tailback Delon Washington let the air out of Northwestern's balloon for good when he scored on a 2-yard touchdown run with 2:55 to play.

"I'm really proud of the way our kids kept coming back," Northwestern coach Gary Barnett said. "But we played against two opponents today. USC and ourselves. We turned the ball over twice today."

Barnett watched the wheels start to come off in the second quarter. With the Wildcats trailing, 17-7, quarterback Steve Schnur completed a pass to Brian Musso in the flat. Musso gained 17 yards, but then fumbled at the SC 47. The ball was scooped up by freshman cornerback Daylon McCutcheon, the son of former NFL running back Lawrence McCutcheon, who sprinted down the right sideline for a 53-yard touchdown.

WILD RIDE ENDS FOR WILDCATS USC EARNS RESPECT Daily News (New York) Janu

And late in the game, after Abrams' 46-yarder, safety Jesse Davis made what may have been the critical play of the afternoon when he intercepted a Schnur pass at his own 28 and returned it 41 yards to the Northwestern 31 to set up the Cats' final score.

Barnett didn't have much time to unwind. Shortly after he entered the press conference, the media started firing questions about the possibility of him leaving Northwestern for UCLA. Barnett danced around the speculation.

"I've got a lot of kids in there who are hurting," he said. "They're important right now. I'm not."

GRAPHIC: AP BOWLED OVER: Daylon McCutcheon (above) returns fumble for TD, while Northwestern QB Steve Schnur (bottom, r.) can't bear to watch. USC QB Brad Otton doesn't mind taking a look.

LOAD-DATE: January 04, 1996

Copyright 1996 Time Inc.
Sports Illustrated

February 19, 1996

SECTION: COLLEGE FOOTBALL; Pg. 25

LENGTH: 479 words

HEADLINE: FREEDOM OF CHOICE

BYLINE: CHRISTIAN STONE

BODY:

Four sacks containing roughly 2,000 letters from love-struck recruiters sadly sat by his Riverside, Calif., front door, like trash waiting to be taken to the curb. Chris Claiborne dipped into a bag and pulled out a two-inch-thick stack of letters. "Take a look at this one," said the 6'4", 235-pound Claiborne. "All the players are asking about you," the letter offered succinctly. "Your [sic] the man!" screamed the next. Men of many letters they are, but no one will ever mistake college football coaches for, say, Cyrano de Bergerac. You would have never guessed it, though, from the soft, smitten look on Claiborne's face.

"How could I say no to any of these schools?" said Claiborne, a linebacker who like so many other recruits wrestled with his college decision. Indeed, he had been unable to bring himself to say no to any of his final choices. He had left that task to his J.W. North High coach, Mark Paredes, who in the week preceding national signing day dutifully called Arizona, Texas, Colorado and, finally, on Feb. 6, Notre Dame with the news that Claiborne, the Cal-Hi State Player of the Year, had chosen to stay close to home and attend Southern Cal.

Claiborne's decision to play for the Trojans brought to a conclusion an especially bizarre series of events. On Jan. 30 the Riverside Press-Enterprise quoted Claiborne as saying of USC, "It's Tailback U, and I want to be part of that tradition." The newspaper had been duped by an impostor, who had given several programs false commitments. "It was funny, I guess, but it made me mad, too," Claiborne says. "Making a decision is tough enough without some joker getting involved."

Since last fall Claiborne had taken careful inventory of the schools that were recruiting him, weighing variables that ranged from whether notes from coaches had been handwritten to whether he would be given a chance to make an immediate impact next fall. Then came the hardest part, culling one school from his final five choices. "I decided I wanted to be close to home," he explains. "But there was only one school where I thought the distance might not matter: Notre Dame."

On Feb. 2 he made his final official visit, to South Bend, willing to be swayed. "You could feel the tradition," he says. "It was everything I thought it would be." But the distance, not to mention the bitter winter cold of northern Indiana, did turn out to matter. Four days later, Claiborne's mind was made up.

"It'll be hard," Claiborne said last Wednesday. "When I was a kid, I used to dream that I'd play for Notre Dame someday." He then picked up the phone and called Mike Van Raaphorst, the highly rated quarterback from La Mesa's Helix High with whom he will room next fall. "No, don't worry, I'm still going to SC," he told Van Raaphorst. "Time to go make it official. Time to sign on the dotted line."

--Christian Stone

GRAPHIC: COLOR PHOTO: JAN SONNENMAIR, Claiborne pondered long and hard before deciding the warm climate at USC beats the cold at Notre Dame. [Chris Claiborne]; COLOR PHOTO: PETER READ MILLER, [See caption above--University of Southern California football players during game]

FREEDOM OF CHOICE Sports Illustrated February 19, 1996

LOAD-DATE: February 16, 1996

FOCUS - 103 of 574 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 The Seattle Times Company
The Seattle Times

March 9, 1996, Saturday, Final Edition

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. B5

LENGTH: 476 words

HEADLINE: HUSKIES HAVE EYE ON NIT

BYLINE: BY BOB SHERWIN; SEATTLE TIMES STAFF REPORTER

DATELINE: LOS ANGELES

BODY:

LOS ANGELES - Washington men's basketball coach Bob Bender tried to point his players toward the future, but the present was just too oppressive.

That was Thursday night, moments after a last-second 46-foot shot by UCLA's Cameron Dollar had beaten his team in overtime, 91-88. Bender addressed his team in a somber locker room.

"There was not much I could say," Bender said. "Not a word I could say would make it better or change what they just saw. But they had to put it away. We have one more game (tonight against USC)."

He understood that the UCLA loss would be a hard one to shake because it meant the end of a dream for seniors, such as Bryant Boston, Jason Hamilton and Mike Amos, who had never played in the postseason.

Bender said he tried to be "sensitive to their mental and physical makeup" but he stressed the importance of letting go.

"This one (UCLA loss) was not meant to be. But our game (tonight) is huge," he told them.

Washington (8-9 in the Pac-10, 15-11 overall), has lost seven of its past nine games but can salvage something tonight. The Huskies likely will advance to the NIT with a victory over the sinking Trojans.

For one of the few times this season, the Huskies have a singular focus. The players know they have one game they need to win. For a program that hasn't been to the postseason since 1987, that possibility is compelling.

"If we beat SC, we're a lock for the NIT," Husky guard Jamie Booker said. The NIT bracket will be announced tomorrow shortly after the NCAA field is completed.

Just beating USC should be a lock in itself. The Trojans (4-13, 11-18) have lost nine straight games, including eight in a row under interim coach Henry Bibby. He replaced Charlie Parker, who was fired Feb. 7.

USC is not just losing games, badly, but is losing players and, subsequently, motivation. The Trojans are down to just six scholarships players, chiefly because of injuries.

Maurice Strong (knee) and Ty Reuter (ankle) have been injured in the past two weeks. Tremayne Anchrum and Burt Harris are still slowed by offseason knee surgeries. Damion Dawson has a bruised toe but should play. Cameron Murray dropped out seven games ago to concentrate on his grades.

Worst of all, it appears the Trojans have given up. Their last nine losses have been by an average of 12.7 points. Their one decent effort in the past month was a 61-59 loss to UCLA.

"It's like there has been some kind of letdown after the UCLA game," said Bibby, living an interim nightmare. "We have to come with the kind of effort we showed in that game. You could look at that game and hold it up to our games in Oregon last week and you wouldn't believe that it's the same team."

The Huskies beat the Trojans 94-72 on Jan. 4 in Seattle, and a victory tonight would give them their only conference sweep this season.

LOAD-DATE: March 10, 1996

FOCUS - 142 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 The Omaha World-Herald Company
Omaha World Herald (Nebraska)

May 31, 1996, Friday SUNRISE EDITION

SECTION: ;COLLEGE WORLD SERIES; Pg. 24N;

LENGTH: 3707 words

HEADLINE: Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders

BYLINE: ROBERT WILLIAMS

SOURCE: WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

BODY:

Rod Dedeaux remembers them well - two of the greatest comebacks in College World Series history.

Dedeaux coached the University of Southern California to 10 championships in Omaha.

But one of those memorable games was a loss - in 1960, 12-11 to Minnesota in 10 innings after Southern Cal led 11-2.

Dedeaux and Southern Cal avenged that in 1973, rallying for eight runs in the ninth for an 8-7 victory over a Dave Winfield-led Minnesota team.

"We always had a great rivalry with Minnesota," Dedeaux said. The late Dick Siebert, the Minnesota coach, was a personal friend of Dedeaux.

"The feeling was always strong," Dedeaux said, "with two powerhouses playing each other."

Dedeaux said the game should not have been played the night Minnesota came back from the 11-2 deficit.

"We were made to play that in a terrific rainstorm," said Dedeaux, speaking by phone from his Los Angeles office where he is president of Dart, a trucking and distribution firm.

"On one of the key plays with everybody running, the Minnesota batter hit a pop fly to the infield," Dedeaux said. "The rain was coming down so hard our third baseman, Tom Satriano, couldn't see the ball. He dropped it, and all the runners scored.

"In another instance, a swinging bunt was hit. Our pitcher, our third baseman, our first baseman all came in for it. All three fell down before they got to the ball."

The Trojans waited 13 years before avenging the Gophers' rally in dramatic fashion.

"What made that so great," Dedeaux said, "was the fact that Dave Winfield was on the mound and had struck out 15 and allowed only one hit going into the ninth."

The Trojans chased Winfield from the mound in the ninth, though he was not charged with the loss.

With Winfield no longer pitching and six runs in, the Trojans put runners on first and third - the potential tying and winning runs.

"I had a good pinch runner in Marvin Cobb," Dedeaux said. Cobb later played football for Cincinnati in the NFL.

"I put him in to run, not at third but at first. He stole second and was in position to score on Creighton Tevlin's sharply hit ground single."

Neither of the USC-Minnesota comeback victories was in the final, but each time the team that staged the big rally went on to win the tournament.

Pitcher Russ McQueen provided Dedeaux a memorable final game feat in 1972.

With Southern Cal leading 1-0 in the fifth inning, Arizona State loaded the bases with none out, and Dedeaux brought in the 19-year-old McQueen.

"Five pitches later, we were in the dugout, and they hadn't scored," Dedeaux said. "He shut them out the next four innings with no one reaching second base." The Trojans won 1-0.

In the 1968 final, Southern Cal defeated Southern Illinois 4-3 as Pat Kuehner tripled home two runs in the bottom of the ninth.

"That had to be one of the great ones," Dedeaux said, "because we were playing under a severe handicap because of injuries.

Dedeaux remembered equally well what the Trojans needed to do to advance to Omaha.

With the best-of-three regional series against Cal State Los Angeles tied at a victory apiece, the Trojans trailed 6-3 going into the ninth inning of the third game. The first two Trojan batters struck out.

"A rally started, and we scored four runs to win," Dedeaux said. "Four batters had a two-strike, no-ball count. We were fighting from behind all the way."

In the ninth inning of the final, Southern Illinois pitcher Skip Pitlock had a 2-0 count on Kuehner, who had been hitless in 14 previous at bats in the series.

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

"The oddity might be," Dedeaux said, "that they had a good left-handed pitcher, and Kuehner was a left-handed batter." Kuehner negated the lefty-to-lefty advantage with a drive off the right-center field fence.

Luck figured in the Trojans' 1970 championship. With three teams surviving, a drawing under the old format determined which would get the bye to the championship.

Dedeaux had never been successful in picking the bye. So his son, Justin, then a USC assistant coach, said, "Let me pick."

Justin Dedeaux selected first but did not open his envelope until the others had. Both of the other envelopes contained "Play."

"Florida State, a pitching-rich team, beat Texas to advance to the final," Rod Dedeaux said. "That vital day of rest gave us a great break because the game went 15 innings, and we beat 'em 2-1."

In phone interviews, The World-Herald asked all living or former coaches whose teams won two or more championships for their CWS recollections.

No coach other than Dedeaux has more than three CWS championships.

Siebert shares the second rung with Augie Garrido of Cal State Fullerton, Jerry Kindall of Arizona and Bobby Winkles, formerly of Arizona State.

Six coaches won two championships each - Cliff Gustafson and the late Bibb Falk of Texas, the late Jim Brock of Arizona State, Skip Bertman of Louisiana State, Ron Fraser of Miami (Fla.) and Mark Marquess of Stanford.

Still coaching the same teams are Gustafson, Bertman and Marquess. Fraser retired as coach in 1993. For two years after that, he was honorary chairman of the university campaign to raise \$ 50 million for the library and other academic needs.

Garrido is the only coach whose teams have won a championship in the 1970s, the 1980s and the 1990s.

"I do have an opportunity to compare," he said. "The '79 championship was won prior to the series being on television. We won 2-1 over Arkansas in a fantastic baseball game." Attendance was 10,158 compared with the record 22,027 turnout for the final game last year.

"The whole momentum of that and the net result of that really wasn't very much," Garrido said. "In a month, the excitement died down.

"In '84, there was television coverage on ESPN. The excitement lasted for quite a while. It made some significant changes. We took some steps forward with our baseball with our facilities and the number of people who attended our games."

Garrido called the changes as the result of winning last year "dramatic."

"The excitement has never stopped," he said. "It has been a factor from

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

the day we won until now. Our average fan attendance last year was around 900 per game. This year, with 1,550 seats, we have averaged 1,700 per game."

Garrido said Omaha can be proud of "taking this little seedling" under its wing in 1950 and making it grow.

"It has really changed, and it is going to continue to change," he said. "It has a lot of momentum. Omaha has really helped the sport of college baseball become significant and the College World Series become one of the major events in the nation."

Kindall credited Florida State with an assist in the third championship Arizona won.

The Wildcats had the bye to the final in 1986 as the Seminoles and Miami played off to determine the other finalist.

"We were not real excited about the prospect of facing Rick Raether, the Miami reliever, again," Kindall said. "He had shut the door effectively on us the game we lost."

Florida State led 4-3 in the sixth inning when its second baseman, Luis Alicea, made a diving stop toward second base to start a double play. The 4-3 score stood.

"In the final game," Kindall said, "we went with Gary Alexander, our designated hitter. He pitched nine innings of championship baseball." Arizona won 10-2.

Arizona lost its first game in Kindall's other championship years. In 1976, it was a 7-6, 10-inning defeat by Arizona State on a Saturday night.

"The next day," Kindall said, "we had to come back against Oklahoma. It was very hot. If ever there had been an opportunity for a ballclub to fold, it would have been that day.

"Ron Hassey, our catcher, particularly stands out because he caught every inning of that national tournament. Catching in that extreme heat and humidity was the mark of a champion."

Siebert's first Minnesota championship team, in 1956, featured Kindall at shortstop.

"Because I was a junior," Kindall said, "I was being scouted by a number of the clubs there. That was before there was a draft, so I was up in hotel suites much of the week, talking to general managers."

Minnesota beat Arizona 12-1 in the final. After the tournament, the Chicago Cubs signed Kindall to a bonus contract.

Minnesota pitcher Jerry Thomas, chosen as the outstanding player of the 1956 tournament, said he could "still see the final out, a fly ball to our center fielder."

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

Thomas has been a banker for 33 years, now as vice president in charge of correspondent banking at Midway National Bank in St. Paul, Minn.

Ken Anderson of Minneapolis played for Siebert's championship clubs of 1956 and 1960, the latter at 28 as the then-oldest player to have played Big Ten baseball.

Anderson, a former television and radio announcer and advertising executive, recalled trailing Southern Cal 11-2 in 1960 before the comeback.

"Dick Siebert asked, coming down the steps of the dugout, about putting in a younger pitcher - to give up on the game, I guess," Anderson said. "I said no, it was way too early."

Anderson pitched the ninth and was lifted for a pinch-hitter, Jim Rantz, now the farm director of the Minnesota Twins.

"After the game, we went out through the stands as the players customarily did then," Anderson said. "One of the Omaha fans grabbed me and said, 'You guys were out of it - buried. I went home and listened on the radio. I came back to the ballpark.'"

Winkles won his championships in 1965, 1967 and 1969 before going on to managing and coaching in the major leagues. He retired in 1993 and lives in La Quinta, Calif.

The 1965 championship - in the Sun Devils' second trip to the CWS - featured a home run by Rick Monday in the 2-1 victory over Ohio State in the final.

"Rick Monday was our first big-time player who went on to the major leagues and did great," Winkles said.

Winkles said he knew Ohio State Coach Marty Karow's reputation for bunting with a runner on third base.

"Ohio State had the bases loaded late in the game," Winkles said. "We pitched out, and he was bunting. There was a great collision at home plate. Our pitcher tagged out their runner. We guessed right, and we won."

In 1967, Arizona State beat Houston 11-2 in an anticlimactic final.

Arizona State had defeated No. 1-ranked Stanford 4-3 in 14 innings the night before as Jeff Rohlfing misjudged the Scott Reid's game-winning double to score pitcher Gary Gentry.

"The Stanford center fielder charged that ball," Winkles said, "and it took off like a line drive does sometimes and went over his head. That was the key game in the series. It was a great performance by Gary Gentry."

In 1969, Arizona State employed five pitchers in the CWS, and four -

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

Lerrin LaGrow, Larry Gura, Craig Swan and Jim Crawford - went on to pitch in the major leagues.

The fifth was a walk-on, John Dolinsek, who was the outstanding player in the tournament.

"They pitched so well," Winkles said. In six games, they walked 15, struck out 54 and had a 1.45 combined ERA. The Sun Devils committed just six errors.

"We pitched like crazy," Winkles said. "We pitched it and caught it. That's what the game is all about. If you can pitch it and catch it, the runs will take care of themselves."

Marquess, first baseman for the 1967 Stanford club, is the only coach since Dedeaux in 1974 to lead back-to-back champions - in 1987 and 1988.

"Looking back, that is an unbelievable achievement, especially with the scholarship limitations," Marquess said. "When SC won five in a row, there were no scholarship limitations. College baseball was a different breed of cat at that time. There were three or four teams that were totally dominant.

"Since the 1980s and the scholarship limitations, you can pick 20 teams each year that could win the national championship because there is more parity in college baseball."

Marquess said Paul Carey provided the baseball moment Stanford fans remember most. In 1987, Carey hit a grand slam off Ben McDonald in the 10th inning to defeat LSU 6-5 and rescue Stanford from elimination. The Cardinal went on to beat Oklahoma State 9-5 in the final.

"That stands out," Marquess said, "because he was a freshman and he was the outstanding player in the tournament."

Those titles, along with Georgia's in 1990, give the Southeastern Conference three of the first six in the '90s.

Bertman said his first championship team achieved a coach's dream - "when the systems click in at the right time."

"The ballplayers were performing at such a high level," Bertman said, "that the '91 club never lost in the SEC tournament or the regional or the College World Series."

Bertman, coach of the United States Olympic team as well as of LSU, has been visiting Omaha since his years as an assistant to Fraser at Miami from 1976 through 1983, the year he moved to LSU.

"The thing that will always be No. 1 in my mind about the tournament," Bertman said, "is the fans and their loyalty to the tournament and their ability to cheer for the underdog, the way they adopt a team.

"The people are outstanding. They make that tournament."

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

Fraser credited the phantom pickoff play Miami pulled on Wichita State in 1982 as the key to winning the championship that year.

In one of the most talked-about CWS plays of all time, Wichita State baserunner Phil Stephenson was decoyed off first base. Miami pitcher Mike Kasprzak, standing behind the mound, made a motion as if throwing the ball to first base.

With Stephenson diving back to the bag, first baseman Steve Lusby acted as if he missed the throw. With Miami players in the dugout and the bullpen acting out supporting roles, Stephenson took off for second base. Kasprzak took the ball from his glove and tagged Stephenson. Miami won 4-3.

Fraser said the play helped Miami again in its 2-1 victory over Texas and Roger Clemens on a botched pickoff play later in the series.

The Texas runner, on second base, thinking the phantom was striking again, did not advance.

Gustafson said "one of the great suspense-filled moments in my College World Series experience" was the 1983 confrontation between Texas pitcher Calvin Schiraldi and Alabama first baseman Dave Magadan.

Magadan had opened the series with eight consecutive hits.

"Against us, he had already got a big base hit that drove in a couple of runs," Magadan said. "We had a one-run lead, and the bases were loaded.

"Schiraldi came on in relief and struck him out."

Gustafson holds the record for most CWS appearances, 17, with the first in 1968. The CWS field today is stronger, he said.

"When the regionals used to be geographical," he said, "you would always have a Maine or a Big Ten school in there. Those teams usually had one good pitcher, and then they would bow out. Now you get truly eight of the very best teams in the nation there.

"As I say at the pre-tournament press conference every time we're there, it is scary to think that two of these teams are going to be ousted in two games."

Falk's two Texas national championships were back to back.

In accepting the championship trophy in 1949, Falk said:

"I'm looking forward to coming back next year and winning it again."

His prophecy was recounted in "Texas Longhorn Baseball," a book about Texas baseball by Wilbur Evans and Bill Little.

As Falk predicted, the Longhorns did repeat - not in Wichita but in Omaha, where the tournament has been played each year beginning in 1950.

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Falk played for Texas three years and for the Chicago White Sox 12 years. Returning to Austin, he coached Texas from 1940 through 1967 with the exception of three years in military service during World War II.

Gustafson, already named appointed to succeed Falk, attended the final game coached by his predecessor. He hesitantly approached Falk to console him on the loss, a 4-3 district loss to Houston.

"Heck," Falk replied, "I didn't want to take those mullets to Omaha anyway."

Brock died of cancer in Mesa, Ariz., June 12, 1994, eight days after coaching his final game, a CWS opening-round victory over Miami.

He became ill on the way to the ballpark for the Sun Devils' second game, returned to the hotel and, the next day, to Arizona. Arizona State went on to tie for third place.

Brock's championship years were 1977 and 1981. The first was in his fifth trip to Omaha.

Arizona Republic sportswriter Tim Tyers said Brock, in breaking through, "was relieved - but at the same time put more pressure on himself to repeat.

"In 1981, he did an outstanding job with Barry Bonds," Tyers said. Bonds was voted by fans as one of three outfielders named to the All-Time College World Series team.

"There was a time when none of his teammates wanted to play on the team with him," Tyers said. "Jim Brock called him aside and told him that and did a good job of bringing him along."

Brock's biggest disappointment in baseball was losing the 1972 CWS final to Southern Cal 1-0 on a wild pitch.

Tyers said another disappointment was in 1976, the year ASU pitcher Floyd Bannister was drafted No. 1, by Houston.

As Arizona State was about to play Arizona in the fifth round of the CWS, Bannister said his arm was tender.

"He didn't want to pitch," Tyers said. "He had beaten Arizona seven straight times in the regular season and once in the series. The Sun Devils had to go with Don Hanna, and Arizona beat 'em.

"That really hurt Brock because Arizona went on to win the national championship after beating Arizona State one of eight games all year."

Pat Brock, his widow, said, "1977 was special because he had come close several times."

She remembered a cartoonist's comic strip that depicted his trips to the tournament with the frame for 1977 showing him clinging to the top of the

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

mountain.

"And that's what it felt like to him after that championship," she said.
"He had been there every year. To finally win was so important.

"As for 1981, when you win one you want more. As he got later in his career, it became very important to me that when he got to Omaha it would work out well.

"Probably the most memorable was 1994, although he didn't win. Everyone was really nice. It made his final World Series the best of all."

CWS Coaching Leaders

CWS APPEARANCES

Cliff Gustafson, Texas 17

Rod Dedeaux, Southern Cal 15

Jim Brock, Arizona St. 13

Ron Fraser, Miami 12

Bibb Falk, Texas 10

Pete Butler, Northern Colorado 9

Frank Sancet, Arizona 9

Gary Ward, Oklahoma St. 9

Mike Martin, Florida St. 8

Skip Bertman, LSU 7

Augie Garrido, Cal St. Fullerton 7

Mark Marquess, Stanford 7

CWS GAMES

Rod Dedeaux, Southern Cal 76

Cliff Gustafson, Texas 74

Jim Brock, Arizona St. 60

Ron Fraser, Miami 47

Bibb Falk, Texas 37

Gary Ward, Oklahoma St. 36

Frank Sancet, Arizona 35

Deans of the Dugout Legends of the Ball CWS Coaching Leaders Omaha World

Augie Garrido, Cal St. Fullerton 30

Mark Marquess, Stanford 29

Hi Simmons, Missouri 29

Skip Bertman, LSU 26

VICTORIES

Rod Dedeaux, Southern Cal 60

Cliff Gustafson, Texas 44

Jim Brock, Arizona St. 36

Ron Fraser, Miami 26

Bibb Falk, Texas 20

Augie Garrido, Cal St. Fullerton 20

Gary Ward, Oklahoma St. 19

Hi Simmons, Missouri 18

Mark Marquess, Stanford 17

Frank Sancet, Arizona 17

Dick Siebert, Minnesota 17

Gary Stephenson, Wichita St. 16

Bobby Winkles, Arizona St. 16

Legends of the Ball

Southern Cal's Rod Dedeaux is the all-time leader in College World Series championships with 10. The other coaches who have won more than one CWS championship:

Rod Dedeaux, Southern Cal (10) - 1958, 1961, 1963, 1968, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1978

Augie Garrido, Cal State Fullerton (3) - 1979, 1984, 1995

Dick Siebert, Minnesota (3) - 1956, 1960, 1964

Bob Winkles, Arizona State (3) - 1965, 1967, 1969

Jerry Kindall, Arizona (3) - 1976, 1980, 1986

Bibb Falk, Texas (2) - 1949, 1950

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Cliff Gustafson, Texas (2) - 1975, 1983

Jim Brock, Arizona State (2) - 1977, 1981

Ron Fraser, Miami (2) - 1982, 1985

Mark Marquess, Stanford (2) - 1987, 1988

Skip Bertman, Louisiana State (2) - 1991, 1993

GRAPHIC: Mugs/9 Augie Garrido Jerry Kindall Dick Siebert Bobby Winkles Mark Marquess Skip Bertman Ron Fraser Cliff Gustafson Bibb Falk B&W Photos/2 Rod Dedeaux Jim Brock Table/1

LOAD-DATE: June 11, 1998

FOCUS - 138 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 San Antonio Express-News
San Antonio Express-News (Texas)

June 4, 1996, Tuesday

SECTION: Pg. 2, Part D

LENGTH: 470 words

HEADLINE: Golf

BYLINE: Raul Dominguez Jr. Express-News Staff Writer

BODY: Carriker ready to defend Women's Amateur crown

Holly Carriker entered last summer in search of her first City Women's Amateur Championship and facing the dubious prospect of playing under another new college coach.

She enters this year's tournament searching for a second title and will again have another new coach in the fall. But unlike last year, that's got her feeling better about her collegiate career.

Carriker opens defense of her City Women's Amateur Championship at 8:30 a.m. today at Riverside.

The first flight opens at 9:02 a.m., the second flight at 9:34, the third at 8:30 and the fourth at 9:10.

The 54-hole tournament continues through Thursday.

Carriker will transfer to the University of Texas in the fall after two years at the University of Southern California.

If Carriker had stayed with the Lady Trojans, she faced the prospect of playing for her fourth coach in three years.

"The coach (Rene Baumgartner) that recruited me was a decent coach," Carriker said. "She always helped me with the little things. Once the coach that recruits you leaves, you're in trouble."

As unstable as Southern California's program has been, Texas' has been just the opposite. Susan Watkins has coached the Lady Longhorns for the last decade.

Carriker chose Southern California over Texas after a stellar career at Churchill High School.

She has only two years of eligibility remaining, but doesn't regret the last two years.

"I think going to Texas is better for me golf-wise," Carriker said. "I really liked going to school at SC. I look at it as going to two good schools for two years."

Carriker transfers from a program struggling to remain competitive to one of the best in the country.

"At SC we were just trying to break the 80s and maybe get a top-10 finish. At Texas, they always want to win," Carriker said.

The Lady Longhorns already include 1995 U.S. Junior Girls champion Kelly Kuehne and former Arizona State standout Heather Bowie, who transferred to Texas last summer.

Carriker shot 221 to win last year's title by two strokes over Suzy Manning.

Manning returns along with 1994 champion Shelly Harden, who finished third last year at 226.

Also returning in the championship flight are Nancy Paul (234), Mary Lucas (242), Cheryl Aceto (246), Pam Skelly (255) and Lani McLin (260)

Newcomers are Sarah Forsman, Kathy Bolton, Natalie Bottoms, Sharan McCall and Nancy Cobb.

Golf San Antonio Express-News (Texas) June 4, 1996, Tuesday

"It sounds like a good field," Carriker said. "I've only known some for couple of years. I know they're good players. I'm going to have to play good."

Missy Byrd is the only other champion returning to defend her title. Byrd shot 269 last year to win the third flight.

Pam Sexton, who won the fourth flight last year, is competing in the second flight.

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Los Angeles Times

June 28, 1996, Friday, Home Edition

SECTION: Sports; Part C; Page 1; Sports Desk

LENGTH: 954 words

HEADLINE: JIM MURRAY;
HE'S TAKING DIPLOMATIC STANCE NOW

BYLINE: JIM MURRAY

BODY:

You look at Keyshawn Johnson and, in a way, you feel sorry for the cornerbacks and safeties of the NFL. They must feel the way Custer did when he saw that first smoke signal.

Calling Keyshawn Johnson "cocky" is like calling the Pacific Ocean "wet." That's not the half of it. Calling Keyshawn "confident" is to insult him. He's not "confident" that he'll get the job done, he's positive.

Well, as Muhammad Ali used to say, "It ain't braggin' if you can do it."

Keyshawn can do it. The NFL should have felt this way when Jerry Rice came out of Mississippi Valley State and signed with the 49ers. Like, oh-oh, there goes the neighborhood.

Except that Jerry Rice didn't, so to speak, drop leaflets. He wanted to sneak up on the league. Get them looking the other way. He had scored 10 touchdowns before they knew he was there.

Keyshawn wants them to know he's coming. Chances are, they're already setting defenses for him.

You see, Keyshawn doesn't believe in hiding his light under a bushel. He wants it shining down on his head while he's taking a bow. Keyshawn wants to smell the roses, talk the talk. If you're looking for modesty, leave your name and he'll try to get back to you.

He's bigger than Jerry Rice. Maybe not as devious. Rice seems to have some mysterious communication with the football, as if some signal emanates, telling him where it will come down. Rice always seems to be where it does.

Keyshawn finds the ball, it doesn't find him. If he gets a finger on it, it's caught. If three men jump for the ball, Keyshawn is the one who'll come down with it. The quarterback doesn't even have to hit him with it. Keyshawn finds a way to get to it. He's more physical than Rice. Hell, he's more physical than Mike Tyson.

It's not that he doesn't have the speed. He not only can run the 40 in 4.4, but, in junior college, he ran the 200 in 21.9, the 400 in 47.6 and long-jumped about 25 feet. He has such a long stride that, when it comes to covering ground, he can make a cheetah look hesitant.

Of course, playing wide receiver is not all speed. It's deception, artfulness, ability to change direction, to cover up intentions. There are elements of playing a poker hand in every pass route. Keyshawn tries not to let you know you're bucking four of a kind, but you are.

Keyshawn is like the stage magician taking a quarter out of your ear. "Oops, what have we here?!" type of thing. Some guys get double coverage. Keyshawn attracts half a team.

He was the No. 1 pro football draft pick. The New York Jets stepped right over the Heisman and Outland trophy winners, passed up on the swivel-hipped running backs and the iron-armed quarterbacks and picked the All-American

JIM MURRAY;HE'S TAKING DIPLOMATIC STANCE NOW Los Angeles Times June

from Troy. The Jets lured a quarterback, Neil O'Donnell, from Pittsburgh, and they wanted somebody open for him to throw to. Someone once said Keyshawn was like a Catholic church--always open.

He caught 168 passes for 2,796 yards and 16 touchdowns in two years at USC. He is as endemic a part of that institution as the statue of Tommy Trojan. As a youngster he stuffed envelopes for the sports information office. Later, he was a ball boy for the football team. When he finally enrolled at SC, he was as much at home as the team horse.

This Trojan horse has such a reputation for self-confidence, the Jets have to ask themselves whether what they're looking at is the second coming of a Joe Namath--or of a Dennis Rodman.

I caught up with Keyshawn at the 11th annual Cedars-Sinai Hospital Sports Spectacular on Sunday night at the Century Plaza, where he had just been honored as college football player of the year.

So, is New York in for a diet of first-person-singulars and a chorus of me-mes from their new draftee?

Keyshawn surveys you as if you were a 5-7 safety between him and the ball. "Why would you get that idea?" he wants to know. "I know I'm in with a bunch of professionals who are the best in the country at what they do. I know I'm stepping up to another level. At high school, you play at one level. At college, it's stepped up. Now, you're in the pros, you're playing at the highest level. Everyone there commands respect. Everybody is the same type of player. You've earned respect and you should get it."

So, another bubble burst. There'll be no purple reign of hair, no glut of personal boast, no head-butting of refs. Just a superbly disciplined football player who does not take his opposition lightly or his task easy.

Instead of trash-talking, you get a vision of Keyshawn, the pro, going out for a long one and reaching, almost apologetically, across the head of a defenseman for a pass and murmuring, "I say, old man, I really believe this was meant for me. So, do you mind? If you need me, I'll be in the end zone with it. I take my calls there usually."

Or, he might go over the middle and have to stiff-arm a linebacker and express sorrow that it had to come to this. "Sorry, old man, but you're standing in my light. They want me to catch this ball and score with it. Nothing personal, but that's what they pay me for. Now, do you get out of my way or do you want my cleat prints across your chest? I abhor violence, but, you see, I'm due in the end zone. You understand, I'm sure."

This, of course, will be a new Keyshawn Johnson. Past competitors may not recognize the Keyshawn in this role. But, after all, this game is just a business deal between two corporate entities. No need to forget one's manners. As the commercial says, to do otherwise would be uncivilized. And Keyshawn is leaving his civil transgressions behind as he ventures into a business world where ruthlessness is carried on behind a veneer of icy politeness--till you count your teeth.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Keyshawn Johnson

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August 9, 1996, FRIDAY, Late Sports Final Edition

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HEADLINE: Huskers now find titles easy as 1-2-3;
Nebraska, FSU again top Sun-Times picks

BYLINE: BY HERB GOULD

BODY:

Oh, the irony of it. Tom Osborne, The Man Who Couldn't Win The Big One just two years ago, has a chance to do something neither Knute nor Bear, Bo nor Woody ever did. Something no college football team has ever done.

The Nebraska coach and his Cornhuskers have a chance to win a third consecutive national championship.

We're so convinced the mild-mannered Osborne is going to make it that we're making the Cornhuskers our pre-season No. 1 pick.

Nebraska will miss inspirational quarterback Tommie Frazier. But it stayed on cruise control when Frazier missed the bulk of the 1994 season, and junior Scott Frost will have impressive talent around him, including sophomore tailback Ahman Green, who rushed for 1,086 yards and 13 touchdowns when Lawrence Phillips was suspended last fall.

What's more amazing about Nebraska's run is that if the Cornhuskers had made their late field goal in the 1994 Orange Bowl, they would have won the national championship instead of losing 18-16 to Florida State.

And now we'd be wondering whether they could make it four in a row.

Once again, the Huskers figure to duel with Florida State at season's end, when the nation's top two teams will meet in the Sugar Bowl.

Bobby Bowden's Seminoles, who have finished in the top five an incredible nine consecutive seasons, return a dazzling array of talent at the skill positions, including running back Warrick Dunn and wideouts Andre Cooper and E.G. Green. The key question is how well Thad Busby replaces Danny Kanell at quarterback.

Four Big Ten teams made the Sun-Times' preseason Top 25: Penn State (No. 12), Ohio State (No. 13), Michigan (No. 15) and Northwestern (No. 17). None appear to be a national championship threat.

Among the teams that nearly made our Top 25 are Iowa and Wisconsin, two Big Ten squads that have big expectations but need to prove themselves in a balanced league. Other near misses include Utah, BYU, North Carolina, Georgia Tech, Clemson and Washington.

Here's the rest of the Sun-Times' preseason Top 25:

3. Tennessee: This is the year the Volunteers finally will hit Pey-dirt against SEC East rival Florida. Junior quarterback Peyton Manning -- who passed for 2,954 yards and 22 touchdowns with only four interceptions -- leads 14 returning starters. Running back Jay Graham (1,438 rushing yards, 12 touchdowns) also returns.

4. Florida: The Gators romped through the regular season before losing their bite 62-24 against Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl, and Danny Wuerffel (3,266 passing yards, 35 TDs, 10 interceptions) is back for one more aerial show. In the wake of that disaster against Nebraska, coach Steve Spurrier has hired a new defensive coordinator, Bob Stoops. Stoops molded Kansas State into the nation's best total-defense unit last season.

Huskers now find titles easy as 1-2-3; Nebraska, FSU again top Sun-Times

5. Colorado: With 17 starters back for Rick Neuheisel's second season, the Buffaloes' biggest problem appears to be dealing with Nebraska in the new Big 12's North Division. The rest of the schedule, which includes a visit from Michigan, also has potential pitfalls. Passing whiz Koy Detmer is healthy after a knee injury, and the defense is poised for what could be a great season at a school best known lately for its offensive firepower.

6. Notre Dame: The Irish have their share of questions. Will quarterback Ron Powlus stay healthy? Will the freshmen receivers step up to help fill the void created by Derrick Mayes' departure? But they also have answers among 14 returning starters, and three-deep depth at tailback (Autry Denson, Randy Kinder and Robert Farmer).

And the Irish catch a big break on the schedule this year: They won't have to face Northwestern.

7. Southern California: Replacing wideout Keyshawn Johnson is an impossible task, but John Robinson has been stockpiling talent, so the Trojans figure to reload on the run. Delon Washington, SC's first 1,000-yard rusher since 1990, heads a strong group of running backs, and the defense should be strong, particularly on the line.

8. Syracuse: The Orangemen are glad Lou Tepper didn't make a pitch for a sprint-out quarterback. That means Mount Carmel product Donovan McNabb -- who had many friends at Illinois, including Simeon Rice -- will be leading Syracuse to what could be its best season in years. As a freshman, McNabb, one of 15 returning starters, showed Heisman Trophy potential last fall.

9. Texas: The Longhorns return 14 starters from the squad that won the final Southwest Conference title and helped coach John Mackovic to a new \$ 3 million contract. Quarterback James Brown is coming off a shoulder injury, but if he's healthy, the Longhorns could continue their climb back toward being a dominant program. They'll host Notre Dame on Sept. 21.

10. Miami (Fla.): After the Hurricanes' miserable 1-3 start last fall, some were ready to write off college football's bad boys. Then they won their last seven and received a light probation sentence from the NCAA. They're eligible for postseason play and have the kind of schedule that could get them there. Running back Danyell Ferguson, just the second 'Cane to rush for 1,000 yards, heads a balanced offense, while 10 of Miami's 17 returnees are on defense.

11. Louisiana State: Second-year coach Gerry DiNardo guided the Tigers to a 4-1 finish last season, sparking great expectations on the Bayou for this fall. The 14 returning starters include quarterback Herb Tyler and running back Kevin Faulk, a pair of sophomores.

12. Penn State: Ohio State probably has more talent, but Joe Paterno's knack for getting the job done makes the Nittany Lions the best of the closely bunched Big Ten contenders. Quarterback Wally Richardson, a second-year starter, figures to steady a young offense, while eight defensive returnees give Penn State a chance to improve what has been a so-so defense.

13. Ohio State: The Buckeyes will have a new set of skill players after losing Eddie George, Terry Glenn, Rickey Dudley and Bobby Hoying. But John Cooper still has all-world tackle Orlando Pace among his 16 talented returnees, and that should make the jobs of new tailback Pepe Pearson and new QB Stanley Jackson much easier. If Ohio State can survive back-to-back games with Penn State and Notre Dame Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, look out.

14. Texas A&M: Some people were talking up the Aggies for the national championship last season, before they checked in at 9-3. With 13 starters back, including eight on its excellent defense, A&M should be able to retool an offense that lost tailback Leeland McElroy. Coach R.C. Slocum has four solid candidates to succeed McElroy. A Sept. 28 home date with Colorado will tell how far A&M can go.

15. Michigan: The talent's there -- 16 starters, including nine on defense, plus quarterback Scott Dreisbach, who broke his thumb early last season. A Sept. 14 trip to Colorado will be a stern test. But second-year coach Lloyd Carr inspired Michigan fans with a 31-23 upset of Ohio State. If Michigan is going to continue its tradition of excellence, though, it's up to Carr to handle the Northwesterns and Michigan States as well as the Buckeyes.

16. Alabama: Coach Gene Stallings has weathered 'Bama's first NCAA probation, but his two coordinators have been replaced for unrelated reasons by assistants already on the staff. Seventeen starters return from last year's 8-3 team, and they should be hungry after probation kept them out of a bowl. Running back Dennis Riddle heads an offense that should be improved.

Huskers now find titles easy as 1-2-3; Nebraska, FSU again top Sun-Times

17. Northwestern: The Big Ten's defending champions have about 18 experienced returnees, including tailback Darnell Autry and linebacker Pat Fitzgerald. Gary Barnett, last year's national coach of the year, also has a motivator; few people expect the Wildcats to make a return trip to Pasadena. How close they come will bear watching.

18. Virginia: The Cavaliers had their finest moment in a 33-28 victory over Florida State, and 12 starters return from a 9-4 squad that figures to get Virginia to its seventh bowl in eight years. Tailback Tiki Barber and his twin brother, Ronde, a cornerback, are one of college football's best brother tandems in years.

19. Auburn: An 8-4 season was a big disappointment at Auburn, and 14 returning starters, including nine on defense, figure to make amends. New quarterback Dameyune Craig got a lot of experience on the goal line last year for the SEC's second most productive offense, behind only Florida. Experience should help an average defense.

20. Kansas State: Despite playing in the shadow of Nebraska and Colorado, the Wildcats quietly have become a force under Bill Snyder. They are one of five major-college programs to win at least nine games in each of the last three seasons. Quarterback Brian Kavanagh, the hero in a 54-21 Holiday Bowl pounding of Colorado State, steps in full-time for Matt Miller.

21. Oregon: The Ducks, who went to the Rose Bowl in 1994, followed that with a Cotton Bowl trip last season. And the return of 12 starters, including eight on offense, means second-year coach Mike Bellotti's squad once again will be in the bowl hunt. Senior quarterback Tony Graziani again will direct the offense.

22. Virginia Tech: One of the nation's best defenses returns six starters and again will be led by end Cornell Brown. Quarterback Jim Druckenmiller and two running backs (Ken Oxendine and Marcus Parker) return to work behind a solid line. That gives the Hokies, 27-9 the last three seasons, a good shot at their fourth straight bowl.

23. Kansas: After their 51-30 rout of UCLA, Glen Mason reversed his decision to take the Georgia job, and stayed to coach the Jayhawks. Fourteen returning starters will ease the transition to new quarterback Ben Rutz, a former junior college star.

24. Texas Tech: Two of the Red Raiders' three losses came by a total of three points (24-23 at Penn State, 9-7 at Baylor) and 14 returning starters have people in Lubbock thinking Tech can continue last year's 9-3 success. Eight offensive starters, led by tailback Byron Hanspard, will need to be effective against Tech's tough schedule in the new Big 12.

25. Arizona State: The Sun Devils, with 19 starters plus both kickers back, are pointing toward their first bowl trip in nine years after barely missing last year, when they finished 6-5 while blowing a two-touchdown lead in their finale against Arizona. Quarterback Jake Plummer "is the best in the West," says ASU coach Bruce Snyder.

GRAPHIC: See also related CHART page 110.

LOAD-DATE: August 9, 1996

FOCUS - 121 of 718 DOCUMENTS

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The Record

August 18, 1996; SUNDAY; ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. S01

LENGTH: 639 words

HEADLINE: THE TROJAN WAR;
GIANTS SEHORN VS. JETS JOHNSON
USC STARS FINALLY COLLIDE

DATELINE: EAST RUTHERFORD

BODY:

Keyshawn Johnson's background, two years of junior college and two years at Southern Cal, closely resembles that of Jason Sehorn. The Giants cornerback also went the JUCO route before joining the Trojans.

Sehorn and Johnson, however, never hooked up on the football field until Saturday night, when the Giants cornerback was one of those trying to slow down the NFL's No. 1 draft pick in the annual exhibition game against the Jets at Giants Stadium.

"I had finished playing college ball before Keyshawn arrived at SC," said Sehorn, the third-year player who has all but locked up the starting right cornerback job with some solid play while his competition, Thomas Randolph, is sidelined by a mysterious groin injury.

"But I know him. I've met him a couple of times when I went back to the school. He's everything you see, a very charismatic, a lot of fun, smiling all the time. He's always having fun, I've never seen him depressed.

"And I know he's a great player. He wouldn't have been the No. 1 pick in the draft if he wasn't. Anyway, I give him the benefit of the doubt, since he went to my school."

Sehorn was hoping to make the rookie's debut less than memorable.

It's because of receivers like the 6-foot-3, 215-pound Johnson that the Giants opened up the right corner competition between the 5-9 incumbent Randolph and the 6-2 Sehorn, good friends who were drafted in the first round in 1994.

"Keyshawn's the prototype of the larger receivers," said Sehorn, whose size can better combat the Keyshawns, Michael Irvins, and Herman Moores of the NFL.

"The Jets are a good test for us," said Giants defensive coordinator Mike Nolan, "because they have big receivers. To us the best receivers are the big receivers. Having Amani 6-2 Toomer in camp has been a big help to our defensive backs in practice. He's a big, physical receiver. And that's what the Jets have, too."

THE TROJAN WAR; GIANTS SEHORN VS. JETS JOHNSON USC STARS FINALLY COLLIDE

Sehorn, one of the Giants best athletes, began showing signs of being able to play the cornerback spot late last season. The coaching staff decided in the off-season that they would give him a shot at Randolph's job, figuring the loser would become an extra defensive back in the nickel and dime packages.

But the competition lasted just one week. Randolph suffered a groin injury, and has been on and off the practice field since then. He played briefly against Baltimore, but was on the sidelines again against the Jets.

"It keeps moving around, I can't catch it," Randolph said of the pain, which ranges from his groin to his hip. "Every time I feel good and go back out on the field, and I aggravate something else. The pain always is in the same general area, but it feels different each time."

Head coach Dan Reeves had a conversation with Randolph on Friday on the practice field, and later delivered a message perhaps aimed at his young cornerback. "You want a player to play through the pain, but you don't want a player to injure himself," Reeves said. "Some guys have to realize that jobs are at stake. You want them to play through pain, but not through injury."

Randolph hopes he'll be able to get a full night's work Friday when the Giants complete their preseason schedule with a game against the Carolina Panthers. He thinks he'll then be ready for the Sept. 1 opener against Buffalo.

"I don't know what my position will be when I get back," he said.

It appears Randolph's chances of keeping his right corner spot are slim. "I don't know what the situation is, the coaches haven't told me anything," said Sehorn, who barring his own injury should be the starter against the Bills. "All I know is I've improved. I've gotten a lot of reps this summer with Thomas hurt, and that's helped. But I've still got a long way to go."

GRAPHIC: 2 PHOTOS BY MEL EVANS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER 1 - COLOR PHOTO - Giants receiver Chris Calloway trying to work his way past Jets cornerback Aaron Glenn during the first half of exhibition game Saturday night at Giants Stadium.

2 - Jets Alex Van Dyke lunging for a pass while being covered by Giants Conrad Hamilton in second-quarter action at Giants Stadium.

LOAD-DATE: June 18, 1997

FOCUS - 114 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 Daily News, L.P.
Daily News (New York)

August 26, 1996, Monday

SECTION: Sports; Pg. 53

LENGTH: 367 words

HEADLINE: PATERNO PLAYS IT SAFE WITH RICHARDSON

BYLINE: By DICK WEISS

BODY:

Penn State coach Joe Paterno wasn't taking any chances after starting quarterback Wally Richardson went down with a groin pull in the third quarter of the Nittany Lions' impressive 24-7 victory over Southern California. With State ahead, 17-0, Paterno pulled him, letting backup Mike McQueary finish up.

"I got twisted around," Richardson said. "It hurt to twist. I've had it before this summer, but it healed. I guess I reaggravated it. I told (Paterno) I wanted to go back in, but I could not pick up my speed."

McQueary completed 2 of 4 passes for 47 yards and led State on a four-play, 42 yard TD drive with 11:42 left on the fourth quarter.

Time on their side: The Lions dominated time of possession, 34:08 to 25:52. Penn State reeled off 76 plays to SC's 62. The Lions' offensive line was a huge surprise, blocking superbly against USC's defensive front. "We just plain went out there and did our job, like we have while we've been getting ready these past three weeks" guard Brad Jones said. "It was all mental and we had some jitters at first. I don't know what went wrong. But USC started getting tired. I think they were dying out there."

Otton misfires: One SC player who looked drained was quarterback Brad Otton, who struggled badly, completing just 11 of 28 passes for 144 yards and no TDs. "We lost the game and got kind of embarrassed here," he said. "I was preoccupied with throwing the perfect ball. I couldn't find people to throw to."

That may be because former SC star and current Jets wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson, who attended the game, wasn't in uniform. But the Trojans' lack of success in the passing game was directly linked to the fact they were never able to establish a running game.

"I thought Brad Otton had a hard day and quarterbacks usually have a hard day against this team if you don't run the football or stay even," USC coach John Robinson said. "They play zone pass defense and matchup zone very well and Brad did not have a good day throwing the ball. I felt like he was pressing as the game went on. Anytime you play that position and things aren't going well, more and more pressure goes on you and Brad got a dose of that today."

GRAPHIC: GERALD HERBERT DAILY NEWS LION BAGGED: Aaron Harris is tripped up, one of few times USC is able to slow Penn State ground assault.

LOAD-DATE: August 26, 1996

FOCUS - 103 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 Daily News, L.P.
Daily News (New York)

September 11, 1996, Wednesday

SECTION: Sports; Pg. 58

LENGTH: 926 words

HEADLINE: KEY'S GOT LOTT TO LEARN
RONNIE: PUT A LID ON IT

BYLINE: By RICH CIMINI

BODY:

WHEN HE SAW Keyshawn Johnson's now-infamous end-zone celebration Sunday against the Colts, Ronnie Lott simply shook his head and said to himself, "Come on, Keyshawn, act like you've been there before."

The future Hall of Famer, watching at the Fox studios in Hollywood, didn't care for Johnson's brazen display, which has sparked a nationwide controversy.

Lott, who considers himself a big brother to Johnson they've known each other since the late '70s wished he had been there to remind the precocious rookie of the etiquette he learned in college. Lott, who starred at Southern Cal 15 years ahead of Johnson, believes Keyshawn violated the Trojan code by going ballistic after his 11-yard reception.

"Marcus (Allen) taught everybody at SC, 'Act like you've been there,' " the ex-Jet said. "It's an SC tradition. Keyshawn should be more like Lynn Swann. When he scored a touchdown (at USC), he just flipped the ball back to the ref. Don't be so animated."

Lott, now a studio analyst for Fox, is willing to give Johnson some slack after all, it was his first NFL touchdown but he hopes the No. 1 overall pick will forget about the theatrics in the future.

"Hopefully, for his sake, when he looks at the tape of that, he'll say to himself, 'Man, I can't believe I did all that when I scored a touchdown,' " said Lott, who befriended Johnson when Keyshawn was a 7-year-old ballboy for the Trojan football team. "At least I hope he said that.

"There were probably a lot of emotions jumping out of the kid, but he's going to be in the end zone a lot in his career, and he has to learn to tone it down," Lott added. "This is another level. This isn't college anymore."

Perhaps the harshest criticism came from ESPN's Joe Theismann, who said on the air Monday night that Johnson's celebration was "disgusting. The guy's a jerk. He acted like a jerk, he sounds like a jerk and he's playing like a jerk. . . . Hey, act like a professional."

Johnson's detonation caused a stir in his hometown of Los Angeles, where an all-sports radio station conducted a point-counterpoint segment yesterday.

Those close to Johnson in Los Angeles weren't surprised. Johnson was relatively reserved at Southern Cal, where John Robinson ran a tight ship, but he was a showman at West Los Angeles Junior College in 1993.

Johnson once capped a touchdown by running through the end zone to the concession stand, where he grabbed a soda. After scoring at Santa Barbara City College, he ran out of the stadium and up a hill that overlooks the ocean. The running joke among the coaches was that they couldn't use him to block on PATs because he was too busy celebrating his TDs.

"When the Jets scouted me, they knew what they were getting," Johnson said correctly.

KEY'S GOT LOTT TO LEARN RONNIE: PUT A LID ON IT Daily News (New York)

Johnson also was ripped by NBC's Bob Trumpy, who saw the rookie smiling on the sideline at the end of the loss. Johnson's response: "What do you expect me to do, cry?"

Darryl Holmes laughed when he heard that line. Holmes, an assistant at West Los Angeles, saw his former player cry after a loss to Compton College. On the bus after the game, Johnson "gave an emotional speech, with tears and everything," Holmes said. "The team was riveted to every word."

"Regardless of what people might see externally," Holmes said, "Keyshawn hates to lose."

The Jets need more players like that.

Special situation

Don't make special-teams coach Ken Rose the scapegoat for his unit's mistake-filled performances. Rose, who arrives at work at 5 a.m. every day, is one of the hardest workers on the coaching staff. The problem is, he has little experience.

Rose was hired last year despite having not coached on any level. Only one other coordinator in the NFL was hired by his current team with no previous experience Bears special teams coach Danny Abramowicz, who started in 1992.

Many people assumed Rich Kotite was going to bring in Larry Pasquale, his special-teams coach in Philly. That didn't happen because they had a falling out in 1994. So Kotite turned to Rose, who played under Pasquale.

"I believe in Kenny Rose," Kotite said. "He's a fighter."

Rose, injured in '94, spent his time assisting Pasquale. An "apprenticeship," Rose called it. His enthusiasm is admirable, but there's no substitute for experience. Rose admitted that he teaches "so much aggression that the technical part of it loses its importance along the way." That could explain eight special-team penalties.

Toe-morrow

Nick Lowery, who needs eight field goals to surpass Hall of Famer Jan Stenerud on the all-time list, has yet to attempt one. . . . Richie Anderson's blocking is suspect. Anderson, small for a fullback at 6-2, 225, failed to pick up a blitz by Colts CB Ray Buchanan. That's where the Jets miss Brad Baxter. . . . RCB Otis Smith, used as an extra DB against the Colts, hopes to return to lineup this week now that his pulled hamstring has healed. Thing is, rookie Ray Mickens has played well. "I expect to start, but you never get what you expect around there," Smith said.

Spitting image

LT Jumbo Elliott, recovering from a pulled groin, hopes to make his Jet debut Sunday. Elliott recalled one of his first games as a rookie in 1988, when he faced his boyhood idol, Cowboys DT Randy White. It was an eye-opening experience for the ex-Giant.

"At the beginning of the game, he went up to each of our linemen and spit on him," Elliott said. "He even spit on the ball."

Asked if he was a Cowboys fan as a kid, Elliott cracked: "Yeah, but I was young and naive."

GRAPHIC: MIKE ALBANS DAILY NEWS TO CAP IT OFF: No. 1 draft choice Keyshawn Johnson spikes ball, removes helmet and does a hat dance to spark a verbal brouhaha with first touchdown of pro career.

LOAD-DATE: September 11, 1996

FOCUS - 76 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 The Charlotte Observer
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Charlotte Observer (North Carolina)

October 6, 1996 Sunday THREE EDITION

SECTION: SPORTS; TOP 25; Pg. 10G

LENGTH: 691 words

HEADLINE: CALIFORNIA KNOCKS OFF TROJANS

BYLINE: Observer News Services

BODY:

California coach Steve Mariucci told the Golden Bears it was about time they beat Southern Cal at the Los Angeles Coliseum. They listened.

The Bears (5-0, 2-0 Pac-10) built a 19-point lead over No. 17 Southern Cal on Saturday, then held on for a 22-15 Pac-10 victory - their first over the Trojans at the Coliseum since 1970.

"I told them that someday, some Cal team is going to beat SC, and asked them, Why not now and why not us?" Mariucci said.

Brandon Willis rushed for 150 yards and caught five passes for 79 yards to lead the Bears' offense, while Andy Jacobs sparked a defense that sacked quarterback Brad Otton six times.

The Trojans (3-2, 1-1) played without four starters who drew one-game suspensions for violating NCAA rules.

No. 7 Nebraska 39, No. 16 Kansas State 3: Tom Osborne figures one of the greatest defensive games in Nebraska history ought to put the seventh-ranked Huskers right back in the national title hunt.

"Our defense played one of the finest games they ever played," the Nebraska coach said after the Huskers smothered the Wildcats for the 28th consecutive year.

"One thing I was uncertain of was which was our real team, the one that played in Arizona or the team we thought we had," Osborne said. "Today I feel a lot better, a lot more confident."

The Huskers (3-1, 1-0 Big 12) tumbled out of No. 1 when they were shut out 19-0 by Arizona State on Sept. 21.

Freshman DeAngelo Evans, who amassed 8,473 yards in a brilliant high school career in Wichita, Kan., rushed for 168 yards and two touchdowns and got booed every time his name was announced.

"I was surprised by that," he said. "It pumped me up, but I think it pumped up my teammates even more."

The Wildcats (4-1, 1-1), unbeaten coming into this game for the fourth straight year, were helpless against a smothering defense, running 27 plays for zero yards and getting two punts blocked in the first half as Nebraska built an 18-3 lead.

Kansas State had 18 yards after the third quarter and wound up with 86 to Nebraska's 432.

No. 18 Washington 27, Stanford 6: Reserve Brock Huard threw a 15-yard touchdown pass to Jerome Pathon with 12:56 to play and backup tailback Corey Dillon added a TD run two minutes later for host Washington (3-1, 2-1 Pac-10), which pulled away after being tied 6-6 in the third quarter.

Stanford (1-3, 0-1) was held without a touchdown for the second straight game, settling for two field goals by Kevin Miller.

CALIFORNIA KNOCKS OFF TROJANS Charlotte Observer (North Carolina) Octobe

No. 23 Texas 71, Oklahoma State 14: Ricky Williams, who played baseball this summer for the Piedmont Boll Weevils, ran for 156 yards and three touchdowns, and No. 23 Texas broke a two-game losing streak.

Texas (3-2, 2-0 Big 12) converted two early Cowboys' turnovers into a 10-0 lead and rolled up 401 yards in building a 41-14 lead at intermission.

Williams gained 141 yards on nine first half carries, including a 56-yard dash that set up a 14-yard TD pass from Richard Walton to Mike Scarborough with seven seconds left in the half.

Texas also scored on runs of 3, 23 and 7 yards by Williams, runs of 1 and 2 yards by Priest Holmes, a 1-yard run by James Brown, a 38-yard run by Shon Mitchell, a 3-yard run by Chris Butcher and field goals of 38, 48 and 43 yards by Phil Dawson.

No. 25 Wyoming 45, San Jose State 22: Len Sexton rushed for 184 yards and scored three touchdowns to lead Wyoming's Western Athletic Conference victory.

Sexton, who rushed 17 times, gained 135 yards on two runs. He scored on runs of 68 and 5 yards and also caught a 12-yard screen pass for a touchdown.

Wyoming's Marcus Harris caught six passes for 148 yards and quarterback Josh Wallwork was 15-of-33 for 273 yards and three touchdowns. He had three passes intercepted.

*

Late Friday

No. 21 BYU 45, Utah State 17: In a game scheduled Friday night by BYU (5-1) so as not to conflict with the Mormon Church's weekend general conference, Steve Sarkisian hit 24-of-35 passes for 310 yards but did not throw a touchdown pass. Only third-string quarterback Kevin Feterik's 5-yard toss to Ben Cahoon continued the Cougars' streak of games - now 37 - with at least one touchdown pass.

NOTES: COLLEGE FOOTBALL

A version of this roundup also ran on page 10G in edition 1.

LOAD-DATE: October 18, 2002

FOCUS - 74 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 The Austin American-Statesman
Austin American-Statesman (Texas)

October 06, 1996

SECTION: Sports; Pg. C8

LENGTH: 286 words

HEADLINE: Cal knocks off No. 17 Trojans

BYLINE: Associated Press

BODY:

LOS ANGELES -- Unbeaten but underdog California built a 19-point lead over No. 17 Southern Cal on Saturday, then held on for a 22-15 victory -- its first over USC at the Coliseum since 1970.

Before the game, Cal Coach Steve Mariucci reminded his team of its losing streak at USC. "I told them that someday, some Cal team is going to beat SC, and asked them, 'Why not now and why not us?'" Mariucci said.

Brandon Willis rushed for 150 yards and caught five passes for 79 yards to lead the Bears' offense, while Andy Jacobs sparked a defense that sacked USC quarterback Brad Otton six times.

The Trojans (3-2, 1-1 Pac-10) played without four starters who drew one-game suspensions earlier in the week for violating NCAA rules.

The Bears (5-0, 2-0) led 16-0 at halftime and added field goals by Ryan Longwell in the third and fourth quarters.

The Trojans threatened after taking the second-half kickoff, moving from their own 20 to the Bears' 5. But Delon Washington fumbled into the end zone on the next play and Nate Geldermann recovered for a touchback.

Washington appeared to be down before he fumbled, and his Trojan teammates at first didn't even move toward the loose ball.

With USC trying to pull the game out, the Bears sealed the win by sacking Otton twice after the Trojans got the ball at their own 20 with 1:46 remaining.

Cal quarterback Pat Barnes completed 19 of 31 for 229 yards and two TDs.

(18) Washington 27, Stanford 6

SEATTLE -- Reserve Brock Huard threw a 15-yard touchdown pass to Jerome Pathon with 12:56 to play and backup tailback Corey Dillon added a TD run two minutes later as Washington (3-1, 2-1), frustrated for three periods, beat Stanford (1-3, 0-1).

GRAPHIC: USC's Billy Miller pays the price for catching a pass with a hit by Derrick Gardner of Cal. Cal knocks off No. 17 Trojans

LOAD-DATE: October 06, 1996

October 9, 1996, Wednesday , FINAL

SECTION: SPORTS, Pg. D5

LENGTH: 702 words

HEADLINE: TROJANS FEEL SQUEEZE FROM INVESTIGATIONS

BYLINE: BUD WITHERS P-I Reporter

BODY: Knowing a little about the squeeze of investigations into a football program, Washington coach Jim Lambright leaned back in a soft chair the other day and sighed, "All I can say is, I'm glad I'm not John Robinson. . . . I can't imagine trying to put a team back together again, with 'Who's suspended this week?' "

Now that he mentions it, which Trojan is suspended this week? The litany of assorted suspensions for NCAA violations - several related to agents - has now reached eight in a season and a half.

Tailback Shawn Walters, slapped with a one-year suspension a year ago for accepting \$15,900 from an agent and sidelined from workouts and games the past two weeks pending another probe into an alleged relationship with an agent, has finally been cleared and is expected to play Saturday against Arizona.

Meanwhile, an exercise that sounds ominously close to finger-pointing has been going on in the USC family.

Robinson, the USC coach, says, "It comes down to internal control by the athletic department. We just have to do a better job."

USC compliance officers say agent issues have been addressed with players. Referring to the violation that resulted in the suspension of four players last week - the trading of school gear for other merchandise - compliance officer Leslie Daland said, "There just isn't time to address every conceivable situation."

Terry Barnum, the USC fullback of a year ago who now assists Daland, said, "Players get a sense in the rules sessions that at the least, lights should start blinking if they're in an area they're unfamiliar with. But they sure didn't come on in that area."

No, they didn't. Robinson points out that the four suspended last week filled out a cards with their home addresses and telephone numbers, leading to the conclusion they didn't know they were committing a violation.

"The thing that's most depressing is, they fail to make the connection between what's right and what's wrong," said Robinson. "They're not evil people in any way."

Some Trojan players have taken the "we're-being-persecuted" tack - the one that became popular around the UW and Seattle following the Pac-10 sanctions here three years ago.

"Everyone hates SC," said defensive tackle Darrell Russell. "Everyone wants to bother SC. If we do good, we're bad. If we do bad, we're worse."

After a controversial fumble by Delon Washington went against the Trojans in the loss to Cal last week, Washington said, "I guess the referees are against me now instead of the NCAA."

BLESSED BEARS: All karma, meanwhile, seems to be on the side of California this year. After the Bears' 5-0 start and the breakthrough victory against USC, they get a bye this week to come down and prepare for WSU in Pullman Oct. 19.

TROJANS FEEL SQUEEZE FROM INVESTIGATIONS SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER Octo

Last week, Cal benefited from the suspended players at USC, and a couple of days before the San Diego State game, mega-talent running back George Jones was suspended.

More than luck, here are a few reasons Cal is undefeated: With kicker Ryan Longwell effective, no opponent drive has started outside its own 30-yard line. Even with first-round NFL draft choices Duane Clemons and Regan Upshaw, the Bears had a middling 33 sacks last year, 25 this year. And last year, Cal allowed 28 sacks, compared to only four so far.

MESSAGE TO MICHAEL: Oregon has allowed career-high rushing games this year to Michael Pittman of Fresno State, Michael Black of Washington State and Mike Martin of Arizona State. Just for variety, the Ducks surrendered one last week to Skip Hicks of UCLA.

All this is good news to Mike Mitchell, the running back from Stanford, which hosts the Ducks this week.

GIVE JAKE A BREAK: Arizona State has begun a full-fledged campaign to push quarterback Jake Plummer for the Heisman Trophy. When an ASU publicist approached Plummer about the idea, the flack said the Idaho product didn't exactly jump up and down but agreed.

"What the heck," said Plummer. "Next year, I could be working in a factory in Boise, so why not?"

DUCK SOUP: Oregon is saying Tony Graziani may start this week after his absence with a knee strain. Of more concern to the Ducks is that its last two Pac-10 opponents have rushed for more than 300 yards each.

NOTES:

Pac-10 notes

LOAD-DATE: October 28, 1998

FOCUS - 1040 of 1757 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 Chicago Tribune Company
Chicago Tribune

October 13, 1996 Sunday, CHICAGOLAND EDITION

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. 6; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 602 words

HEADLINE: COACH'S DREAMS FOR CAL ARE VIVID

BYLINE: By Ray Ratto, San Francisco Examiner.

DATeline: BERKELEY, Calif.

BODY:

This is what Steve Mariucci, football coach and amateur hallucinator, wants for the University of California: "What I want to see is that we become a first-class program where we're in the Top 10 every year, where we have a full stadium every Saturday, where going to Strawberry Canyon is the thing to do, a happening, an event, a fun family day. I want to see it like those places in the South and the Midwest, where it's Friday night for high school football, Saturday for a college game and Sunday for church and the pros, shovel the snow, rake the leaves. Like when I grew up."

Snow at Cal? Church at Cal? A sellout at Cal? Model airplane glue has never been this powerful.

Then again, why should he not dream for the works? All it took was a last week's 22-15 victory over Southern California for him to lure his athletic director back in from the high ledge.

In the last year, John Kasser has had the privilege of firing Keith Gilbertson for losing too many games and Todd Bozeman for losing an argument with Jelani Gardner's old man. Kasser spent his days fielding phone calls from the NCAA and his nights fighting off angry alums while trying to cadge money from them.

"You should have seen the letters and heard the phone calls," Mariucci said. "I didn't count them, but man . . ."

The messages, from modestly appointed true believers to Mariucci's former clients Brett Favre and Reggie White, fell into one of three categories: "Well, I'll be damned," "Mooch, you're a bloody genius!" or "Rose Bowl for sure."

"I didn't know that many people rooted against USC," he said with a tell-tale smile that said exactly how much he was enjoying this moment.

But Kasser was enjoying it, too. Oh, he was taking the high road with all the "I'm just so happy for the coaching staff and the kids" and the "Everybody's so happy for the program" platitudes he could push out his throat. But in truth it was also a moment for him.

"The last five days, I've run into a lot of people on the job and off, and if they recognize me, the first thing they say is, 'How about that game?' " Kasser said.

Of course, nothing creeps out an eager fan or donor like beating SC at SC and then coughing it up a week later, like they did in 1970 (losing at Oregon State). This time, the boys face Bye, a school they removed from the schedule two years ago after a long run of scoreless ties, and then head to Pullman to play Washington State, where they haven't won since 1979.

For now, however, Cal is a happy place. "We just put the Big Game (Cal-Stanford) tickets on sale," Kasser said, "and between that and the UCLA game (Oct. 26), the ticket people say it's been pretty busy."

"Pretty busy" is, of course, a long way from Mariucci's dream of regular sellouts. The last time Cal sold out Memorial Stadium for anything but a Big Game was 1979. Worse, the football team cracked 40,000 only once last year.

COACH'S DREAMS FOR CAL ARE VIVID Chicago Tribune October 13, 1996 S

Plainly, Strawberry Canyon still ranks well behind the Great Mall, the Winchester Mystery House, Coit Tower and Rasputin Records when the new Nine Inch Nails CD is released.

Besides, who's to say that Mariucci won't last at Cal long enough to complete his dream?

If he gets close enough to his dream, he'll be working his magic in St. Louis or Detroit or Cincinnati or New England or Seattle before too much longer. As much as he loves the college atmosphere and the rush of Birkenstocks on corduroy cuffs and the hustle and bustle of Telegraph Avenue at 2:30 a.m., well, there's no place like the big show, and there's no check like the ones they give in the big show.

GRAPHIC: PHOTOPHOTO: New coach Steve Mariucci dreams of the day he can bring Cal football into the spotlight. AP file photo.

LOAD-DATE: October 13, 1996

FOCUS - 55 of 718 DOCUMENTS

Copyright 1996 Lewiston Morning Tribune
Lewiston Morning Tribune (Idaho)

October 28, 1996

SECTION: sports; Pg. 1B

LENGTH: 987 words

HEADLINE: The revival of Student Body left; It's just part of the growing number of fads coming back

BYLINE: Dale Grummert

BODY:

PULLMAN -- In a year when kids are gaga over lava lamps and K.C. is carting his Sunshine Band around the country, is it really so surprising to see USC jamming the ball down the larynx at Martin Stadium?

Nothing has really changed in 20 years, except you can watch Mary Tyler Moore at 4 a.m. now, and all the home-boys have home pages.

It's not that Washington State quivers at the sight of red and gold uniforms. It's not that the Cougars punctuate their trash talk with "Sir."

Somehow, though, at some pivotal part of the game, the Cougs always bring out the best in Southern California's power game. On a night when Brad Otton was spraying the OmniTurf with passes, on a night when the eastern Washington chill had turned his receivers' hands to stone, USC pulled off enough interior coups Saturday, on both offense and defense, to extend their 75-year mastery of the Cougars with a 29-24 win.

"It's one of the worst feelings I've ever had," said WSU wide receiver Chad Carpenter, who is 0-for-5 against the Trojans. "I've wanted to beat SC so bad. It's been five years, and it seems like SC has always turned our season around (for the worse)."

These home losses to Troy are generally tight, maddening and fully explainable in physical terms.

You've heard this before, but things should have been different this year. USC tailbacks are in a 15-year Heisman slump. In the early '80s, when Troy coach John Robinson absconded for the Los Angeles Rams, Trojan tailbacks were swept away by the same wave that doomed Democrats and guitar bands.

These days, Robinson is back but the tailbacks are still reeling. They can't even outrun the NCAA. The gumshoes trail them like the helicopters that dogged their patron saint in the Ford Bronco.

And the Cougars, for the first 30 minutes Saturday, crowded the line of scrimmage, invited Otton to throw (ineffectively), and held the USC ground game to 33 first-half yards.

Last week, after two Pac-10 losses in three games, Robinson tried to hot-wire his team with the strangely premature announcement that Troy would win its last five games and get a major bowl bid. The future is now.

By halftime the future was history. Forget about winning, Robinson said. Just run the ball. Just live up to some small part of your heritage. Make some small contribution to the Seventies Revival.

Maybe his phrasing wasn't so delicate.

"At halftime, coach Robinson called the guys on the offensive line babies," guard Chris Brymer told L.A. reporters. "I took it to heart. In the first half... I was just in the tank. I was thinking they should take my butt out."

The revival of Student Body left; It's just part of the growing num

The speech took effect midway through the second half, when the Trojans mounted back-to-back touchdown drives, chewing up 12 minutes and covering 157 yards, including 119 on the ground.

"They just ran the ball more determinedly in the second half," WSU coach Mike Price said. "They cut across the grain, and we overran plays. We got bruised up. Our depth started to show. We missed tackles."

In similar fashion, USC pass-rushers were tamed for much of the game but went wild at key moments, the most obvious one being the fumble-causing sack deep in Trojan territory with 26 seconds remaining.

That left talented sophomore quarterback Ryan Leaf apologizing to his senior teammates for failing to be superhuman.

"I'm supposed to be their leader, and I'm the one out there who fumbles the ball and loses it for them," said Leaf, whose arm had taken the Cougs 84 yards in the three previous plays. "I feel terrible about it."

Yet the fumble was blameworthy only in the sense that it typified a certain indiscretion that has crept into Leaf's game recently. He threw for 314 yards but was intercepted three times. His education continues.

By crunch time, the damage had been done. The clock had been turned back. It was 1976 again -- big USC holes, fast USC backs, Robinson folding his arms in mute but obvious approval. There was Delon Washington, he of the three-game NCAA suspension, he of the 3.1-yard average, cutting and slashing like Ricky Bell or Charles White. More or less.

On the tube in L.A., it must have been a beautiful sight. To the Cougars, it was a lime-green leisure suit in a gaudy disco.

COUGAR NOTES -- Running back Michael Black, who resprained the ankle that had sidelined him earlier in the season, is expected to be ready for the Cougs' next game, on the road Nov. 9 against UCLA. Numerous other Cougars, including top tackler James Darling (quad contusion), are nursing minor injuries... With three games remaining (at UCLA and Stanford and at home against Washington), the Cougs probably need to win two to secure a bowl berth.

GRAPHIC: Tribune/Steve Hanks

Washington State University running back Michael Black tries to break loose from USC's Sammy Knight and Chad Morton. Black went 24 yards on the second-quarter play, but it was USC's running game that overpowered the Cougars 29-24 Saturday night at Martin Stadium in Pullman.

LOAD-DATE: October 28, 1996

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November 25, 1996, Monday, AM cycle

SECTION: Sports News

LENGTH: 531 words

HEADLINE: Finally, Just Football for Notre Dame

BYLINE: By NANCY ARMOUR, AP Sports Writer

DATELINE: SOUTH BEND, Ind.

BODY:

The trip to Ireland. The Boston College gambling scandal. Lou Holtz resigning and Bob Davie getting hired.

After fitting a year's worth of distractions into four weeks, Notre Dame finally gets to concentrate on football this week.

"This hasn't been easy for our football players ... but I think they've handled it well," Holtz said Saturday after yet another distraction, his final game at Notre Dame Stadium.

There still are a few questions to be answered, like which assistants Davie plans to keep and will Ron Powllus come back for a fifth year. But Holtz, Davie and the players say they're not going to worry about anything but Southern California this week.

This is an important game for No. 10 Notre Dame, which is still trying to lock up a berth in the Fiesta or Orange bowls. The Irish haven't let the distractions bother them the past two weeks, routing Pittsburgh and Rutgers. But USC is in a little different class from those two.

Even though the Trojans haven't won since 1982, USC is still Notre Dame's biggest rivalry.

"We've got one regular season football game left on the schedule, and all of our focus is going to be on Southern California this next week," Davie said. "There will be no discussions with the current staff or discussions with the media on the staff until after the Southern Cal game."

The Irish couldn't have picked a worse time than November to go through what they did. After losing to Air Force on Oct. 19, the Irish had to win their remaining five games for any chance at a bowl bid.

But those five games included back-to-back road trips, one to Ireland to play Navy and the other to Boston College, which isn't exactly Notre Dame's favorite road game even in a good year. Then the BC gambling scandal broke the weekend before the Irish game.

Holtz and his players were bombarded all week with questions about the situation and gambling by college athletes in general. They spent the rest of their time worrying if the Eagles were going to rally together or fall apart.

Finally, Just Football for Notre Dame November 25, 1996, Monday, AM cycl

Just when the Irish thought they'd get a breather, Holtz started dropping hints he might not be back. That started a 10-day frenzy of rumors, whispers and guessing games. Reporters from all over the country were camped out at every practice. Players were asked what was going to happen and what they thought about it.

Holtz's resignation just brought new questions. Davie tried to say as little as possible, and players started asking reporters for the latest gossip.

So when Davie was introduced Sunday as the new head coach, the players were almost as relieved as they were excited.

"We're definitely excited to have coach Davie as our coach, he's a great coach," said offensive tackle Mike Rosenthal. "Now we're just ready to get ready for SC this week."

Davie said he has no doubt the players will be ready. If they could handle the last few weeks, they can handle anything, he said.

"One of the biggest values you learn in coaching or playing for Lou Holtz is mental toughness and the ability to focus," Davie said. "If the last three weeks are any indication, I think we can feel pretty good about this aspect of heading into the Southern Cal game."

LOAD-DATE: November 25, 1996

40 of 245 DOCUMENTS

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November 25, 1996, Monday, PM cycle

SECTION: Sports News

LENGTH: 578 words

HEADLINE: Bruins Refuse to Lose to Trojans

BYLINE: By JOHN NADEL, AP Sports Writer

DATELINE: PASADENA, Calif.

BODY:

UCLA coach Bob Toledo called himself the happiest man in the world. Southern California coach John Robinson was probably at the other end of the spectrum.

And for Robinson, it might get worse before it gets better. The embattled coach and his team must beat No. 10 Notre Dame for the first time since 1982 to keep USC (5-6, 3-5 Pac-10) from its third losing season in the last 35 years.

"I don't know what to say," Robinson said quietly after UCLA (5-6, 4-4) rallied from a 17-point deficit and beat USC 48-41 in double overtime Saturday. "It just seems like nightmarish things happen to us."

A 25-yard touchdown run by Skip Hicks on the first play of the second overtime possession was the next-to-last nightmarish thing to happen to the Trojans.

The final one came four plays later, when backup USC quarterback Matt Koffler was hit while attempting to pass on a fourth-and-4 play from the UCLA 19-yard line. His errant throw was intercepted by Anthony Cobbs in the end zone.

That put an end to the 3-hour, 47-minute marathon played before a crowd of 80,644 at the Rose Bowl.

UCLA's win over USC was its sixth straight - the longest streak in a series the Trojans lead 34-25-7.

"I thought we got into SC's head, five straight losses and all," said UCLA quarterback Cade McNown, who ran for two touchdowns and completed 29 of 47 passes for 356 yards and another score. "We got into a zone in the second half. We made so many big plays it's hard to pick out one or two."

Robinson said the Trojans would beat UCLA and Notre Dame when he became USC's head coach for a second time before the 1993 season. But he's 0-4 against the Bruins and 0-2-1 against the Fighting Irish since then.

He also coached the Trojans from 1976-82, when he went 5-2 against the Bruins and 6-1 against Notre Dame.

USC is 0-12-1 against Notre Dame since last beating the Fighting Irish 14 years ago.

It seemed the Trojans were going to beat the Bruins through most of Saturday's game, especially when Koffler threw a 78-yard touchdown pass to freshman R. Jay Soward with 11:06 left in the fourth quarter to put USC ahead 38-21.

Bruins Refuse to Lose to Trojans November 25, 1996, Monday, PM cycle

"I thought the game was ours," Koffler said. "I thought we had it in the bag."

But it wasn't to be.

First, Bjorn Merten kicked a 47-yard field goal with 6:12 remaining. Then, Keith Brown's 1-yard run with 2:49 left capped a 42-yard drive and drew UCLA within seven points.

The Bruins failed on an onside kick, but LaVale Woods fumbled on a second-down play and Kusanti Abdul-Salaam recovered for the Bruins with 1:27 left. UCLA moved 56 yards on six plays, scoring on an 11-yard run by Hicks.

The TD came with 39 seconds to play. Merten's conversion tied the game 38-all.

The teams exchanged field goals in the first overtime - a 25-yarder by USC's Adam Abrams, and a 40-yarder by Merten.

UCLA hasn't lost to USC since being beaten 45-42 in 1990.

"It's quite a feat to beat our crosstown rival six (straight) times," Toledo said. "I'm the happiest guy in the world."

Soward caught six passes for 260 yards, a school record as well as an NCAA freshman record. Three of his six receptions went for touchdowns, two from Brad Otton.

"No matter what the receiving record is, if you don't get the (win) behind it, it doesn't matter," Soward said.

Otton left the game early in the fourth quarter because of sore ribs following a hit by UCLA's Weldon Forde. Before being injured, Otton completed 12 of 22 passes for 273 yards and three TDs.

LOAD-DATE: November 25, 1996

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The Sporting News

November 25, 1996

SECTION: OPENERS; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 785 words

HEADLINE: CAUGHT ON THE FLY;
Shut up and deal

BODY:

Fly's yer MVP (most valuable pundit).

* At deadline's passin' last week, the national past-its-time entered that age-old bargainin' territory "You save my face and I'll save yer ..." as far as the Spies could tell. You-n-Fly know Proud to be Yer Bud let this one go right through his legs; now Nothin' to Fehr but Fehr Himself needs to claim victory and then ... give ... a little (say, the last tax-free year) and the swing voters'll get this baseball deal done.

* The Spies say the cheque's in the mail to about 1,400 players, settlement at long last in NHL players' five-year fight for pension money (their fair share: \$ 41.1 mil Canadian). Fly's choosin' friends verry carefully, eh? Gordie Howe'll get \$ 205,005; Neal Broten \$ 55.15.

* Suddenly Fly feels overqualified for public office in San Fran. Yo, Mayor Brown (rhymes with "clown"), no apology ... acceptable.

* Hey-yo, don't think the Spies didn't notice this year's Cy Young winners grew up in the Motor City Kitties' back yard. Smoltzie's a native-o-Warren, Mich., and went to Lansing Waverly High. Pat Hentgen grew up in Fraser, Mich., and made his post-Cy comments from his home in Shelby Township, Mich. The Spies' spin: This drips with irony, and the pitchin'-poor Tigs got soaked.

* Fly hears this year's pledge class at Nu Beta Alpha is seein' serious hazin', and Allen Iverson's prime target. Yer shorts're too long, the black braces're coverin' too much white sock, crossover's a violation and, oh yeah, we don't like the look-o-yer, ahem, friends. "Everything has been blown out of proportion," Iverson says. "It's just another thing to try and tear me down." Welcome to the big time, kid.

* Paper or plastic, Mr. Krieg?

* Hey-yo, schools can flap gums about grad rates-n-total student programs, but college football's still a win-or-lose proposition (that's "win" or "lose" yer job, pal). Now that Gary Barnett's done the unthinkable (OK, they probably thought about it at NU, because, hey, those eggheads think everything to death), the heat's been turned up in the Big Ten. It's no coincidence, Pasadena-breath, that the four longest Rose Bowl droughts belong to Illinois (accent on the first syllable), Out-diana, Minnehaha and Purdon't. And the four Big Ten teams that haven't sold out a home game this season? Yup.

* Speaking of college coaches ("This seat feel hot to you?"), the Spies say watch Ol' SC's last two games--UCLA this week and Notre Dame next--verry closely. The Trojans were picked No. 7 in preseason polls, and Coach Rob has 'em in seventh, all right (oops, that's the Pac-10 standings Fly's eyin'). He has four years left on a five-year deal, but Mike Garrett's noticed all those fans wearin' empty-seat suits to the Coliseum, not to mention the internal dissension that even last week's players-only meeting can't hide.

* NFL coaches like to make this game out to be linear equations. But you-n-Fly know this much math: The higher the numbers denotin' Barry's carries, the bigger the Lions' victory total. In Wayne's world, that's apparently senior-level

CAUGHT ON THE FLY; Shut up and deal The Sporting News November 25, 1996

calc. No wonder Sanders had fewer totes after 10 games than in any year since '92, the last time the Lions had a losin' record.

* From the continuing ed. dept., Fly-in-training course (yer tax dollar at work), Fly supplies the straight line, you supply the joke: Pale Hose skip Terry Bevington'll be signin' autographs at The White Sox Clubhouse locations next month in Chitown.

* Hey-yo, Sgt. Ray, no charge for usin' Fly's line on Ricky (Runnin' Off at the Mouth) Watters. Shaddup! Watters thought (sniff!) he wasn't (sniff!) gettin' ball (honk!) enough. Yo, Rick, what was that yer ex-'mates were sayin' when you left the Bay?

* Fly's Top 5 or "Get Outta the Gate Fast? What Gate?": 1. Can't anyone play this Cotton-pickin' game?; 2. GrizzLLLLies; 3. Pacers (named for AMC's finest, brick-breath); 4. Worriers; 5. Without David, They're No Goliath.

* Fly hears the Raiders held a defensive-players-only meeting last week ... but it was nullified because of a penalty.

* Early reports outta Westwood are that The Wiz, who has given an "I Feel the Program's Pain" speech, will assume the role of "interim adviser" for Steve Lavin. "I don't know, maybe it's just semantics, but I never wanted to be in a position as adviser," says Wooden, 86. "My role is really no different than it has been. I was always available to anyone who wanted to talk, from Bartow to Cunningham to Jim (Harrick)." Yeah, it's just that most of 'em weren't 32, and they didn't wanna talk, right?

* Finally, Fly's old friend Bob Kravitz says maybe it wasn't such a hot idea havin' Chuck Hustle give the B.C. football team a pep talk before the season opener.

GRAPHIC: Photo, Hot seat: Iverson's new fraternity brothers have singled him out for special attention.; illustration for tsn by leslie harris

LOAD-DATE: June 18, 1997

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Los Angeles Times

November 27, 1996, Wednesday, Home Edition

SECTION: Sports; Part C; Page 1; Sports Desk

LENGTH: 696 words

HEADLINE: ROBINSON: JUDGE ME ON BIG USC PICTURE;
TROJANS: COACH SAYS NOTRE DAME GAME SHOULDN'T BE MAKE-OR-BREAK. SOME PLAYERS SAY
THEY MIGHT LEAVE IF HE GOES.

BYLINE: EARL GUSTKEY, TIMES STAFF WRITER

BODY:

Is John Robinson's job as USC football coach riding on the outcome of Saturday's game against Notre Dame?

He said Tuesday he hoped that was not the case, that his postseason performance review should be based on results of the previous four seasons, not only this one. USC is 5-6 this season.

Robinson, talking at his weekly media luncheon, said there had been some coaching mistakes, but he added that he couldn't predict his fate.

"I don't know what's going to happen, and I'm not going to speculate," he said.

He defended his four-season record at USC, pointing out that the Trojans have been Pacific 10 Conference co-champions twice and won Cotton and Rose Bowl championships.

"In the three years I've been here, we've taken this program from a very poor talent base to a team easily recognizable as having a good future," he said. "Of the top 45 or 46 players on this team, about 40 will come back.

"This season has gone upside down. Nightmarish things have happened. . . . we have not finished games well."

Trojan players rallied around their coach.

Said senior linebacker Sammy Knight: "Yes, I'm surprised he's in this position. He was 9-2-1 last year and now he's on the hot seat? That's ridiculous. We accept the fact high expectations were placed on us this year, but look at all the losses and you can see it was our inexperience.

"I would not have come to USC if it wasn't for John Robinson. I wasn't even planning a USC recruiting visit until he got the job."

Freshman receiver R. Jay Soward, who gained a school-record 260 yards against UCLA on Saturday: "Look at the talent coming back here next year--it has national championship written all over it. I don't think that could happen with new coaches.

"I'd consider leaving if J. Rob Robinson left. A redshirt year somewhere else wouldn't be a bad thing for me. J. Rob is the only reason I'm here, so if he left, it'd be the reason I'd leave."

Said junior tackle Darrell Russell, who is considering leaving early for the NFL: "If J.R. were to leave, that would be a minus for my staying. If he stayed, that would be a plus for me staying."

Observed senior quarterback Matt Koffler: "I used to want to coach. But to see J.R. going through this after the season we had last year, it turns me off. SC is not going to go to the Rose Bowl every year."

ROBINSON: JUDGE ME ON BIG USC PICTURE; TROJANS: COACH SAYS NOTRE DAME GA

Athletic Director Mike Garrett has said he would have no comment on the team's coaching picture until after the season.

Robinson also addressed:

--Coaching mistakes: "We attempted to do more offensively than we could early in the season. We felt with a senior quarterback Brad Otton that we could maximize his talent. That didn't happen, through no fault of his own."

--His staff's status: "This is the same staff that took us to co-championships two out of three years, and second the other year. It's the same staff that recruited the players we have here. If we are to go forward with this group, then we will. If it's time for USC to make a change, then that decision will be made."

"If I'm here another five years, I will do the same kind of job I've done over the past 11 including his 1976-1982 term as USC's coach. I'm not sure how we will arrive at this decision. . . . I believe I will have some input."

--The outcome of the Notre Dame game on his future: "I've tried to say that, in my view, it shouldn't have a bearing. It's a decision that needs to be made based on where this program can go in the future, whether I'm the person to continue to lead it, whether it's time for a change based on information other than this particular game."

"But I think those things must be put into balance, based on the pluses that have happened here the last four years."

Robinson made a veiled reference to fair-weather USC fans, those who cheered their team for winning the 1996 Rose Bowl game yet who now believe the coach should be dismissed because of recent reversals:

"The love affair people have for you on Jan. 1 may not make it to the end of November."

* USC STARTER

Coach John Robinson said backup quarterback Matt Koffler likely will start against Notre Dame in place of the injured Brad Otton. C4

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: (SOUTHLAND EDITION, C1) John Robinson hasn't been able to beat UCLA or Notre Dame in his second term. **PHOTOGRAPHER:** VINCE COMPAGNONE / Los Angeles Times **PHOTO:** John Robinson, USC Coach

LOAD-DATE: November 27, 1996

35 of 1347 DOCUMENTS

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Los Angeles Times

November 28, 1996, Thursday, Home Edition

SECTION: Sports; Part C; Page 7; Sports Desk

LENGTH: 254 words

HEADLINE: COLLEGE FOOTBALL DAILY REPORT;
USC;
KEYSHAWN STANDS BEHIND ROBINSON

BYLINE: EARL GUSTKEY

BODY:

Keyshawn Johnson, probably John Robinson's best player in his second term as USC's head coach, spoke strongly in defense of the embattled coach during a Tuesday night phone interview.

Robinson is under fire, his Trojans (5-6) having lost three in a row. The team ends its disappointing season against Notre Dame on Saturday.

Johnson, the New York Jet receiver who was the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft, said USC's longtime success with recruiting inner-city Los Angeles athletes could change if Robinson is fired.

"USC will never bounce in the inner city again if they fire Coach Rob," Johnson said.

"He's known in every inner-city neighborhood as a man who cares for his athletes. He's like a symbol--to kids in L.A., like me, he represents the way college football can take you to a college degree.

"He's the best thing that ever happened to SC and I hate to see him being treated like this.

"If they fire Coach Rob and start from scratch with a new coach . . . I personally know of a lot of younger guys on that team who will leave. And if that happens, that means another four, five years of losing to Notre Dame."

*

Add Oregon State to the list of schools interested in offensive coordinator Mike Riley. He's expected to interview next week for the opening created when Jerry Pettibone was fired after five years. Riley already has been interviewed by Fresno State. . . . A decision on quarterback Brad Otton's availability against Notre Dame might not be made until Saturday's pregame warmups.

LOAD-DATE: November 28, 1996

Copyright 1996 The Houston Chronicle Publishing Company
The Houston Chronicle

November 28, 1996, Thursday, 3 STAR Edition

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 575 words

HEADLINE: Fisher top candidate if job opens at USC

BYLINE: JOHN McCLAIN; Staff

BODY:

If the University of Southern California loses to Notre Dame on Saturday and coach John Robinson is fired, Oilers coach Jeff Fisher will be a leading candidate to replace him.

Sources close to the Trojans say Fisher, who grew up in the Los Angeles area and played defensive back at USC, ranks high on the school's list of possible replacements if Notre Dame defeats USC and Robinson is fired.

Fisher, who played for Robinson at USC and served as his defensive coordinator with the Los Angeles Rams, is under contract with the Oilers.

""Jeff's our coach, and he's under contract," said general manager Floyd Reese, who played at UCLA, the Trojans' bitter rival. ""We have no intention of letting him get away, especially to USC.

""Now, if it was UCLA, we might think about it, but tell the Trojans they'll have to look somewhere else for a coach. "

Fisher, who is trying to help the Oilers snap out of a slump and beat the New York Jets to remain in the playoff race, said he has not heard from anyone connected to USC. And besides, he said he finds it hard to believe that Robinson's job is in jeopardy one year after he won the Rose Bowl.

""I think it's unlikely the job will be open," Fisher said.

""It's hard to comment hypothetically speaking, but I will say this: Eleven months ago, John Robinson's team beat Northwestern in the Rose Bowl. He's done a good job there.

""There's a great deal of parity in the Pac-10, and anybody can have an off year. He's done a very good job with that program.

He's brought the respect and tradition back. I find it difficult to believe he's under pressure. "

When Robinson returned to USC four years ago for his second tour of duty, Fisher was the San Francisco 49ers' secondary

coach. He was mentioned as one of the three leading candidates, but he said he was never officially contacted by anyone from the university.

""As far as my relationship with the university, I'm a Trojan for life," Fisher said. ""I had a great career there. I really enjoyed my years at SC. I've got a lot of friends there.

""If the job were to open up and I was considered, I'd consider that an honor. However, I'm very happy with what I'm doing now. I intend to finish the job I started with the Oilers. "

Fisher has never coached on the college level. After leaving USC, he played five years for the Chicago Bears. His coaching career began with the Philadelphia Eagles in 1986, and even though he has remained in the NFL, a return to Southern Cal is something that has always intrigued him.

""I got into coaching in 1986, and I've been in the NFL ever since," Fisher said. ""But I believe at some point in their lives all coaches think about having a chance to coach at their alma mater.

""As far as I'm concerned, Southern Cal is one of the top jobs in the country because that's where I played my college ball, but it's not an issue at this point. "

Fisher and his wife, Juli, grew up in the San Fernando Valley, where their families still reside. As long as Fisher is under contract to the Oilers, the closest he will come to USC will be when he evaluates the Trojans' senior prospects.

""We're struggling a little right now, but Jeff's a darn good coach, and I have no doubt he'll get done the job we want done," Reese said. ""We're not fickle, and we're as sure as we've ever been about Jeff, so why would we let him get away? "

LOAD-DATE: December 1, 1996

Copyright 1996 Times Publishing Company
St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

November 30, 1996, Saturday, 0 South Pinellas Edition

SECTION: SPORTS; COLLEGE FOOTBALL; Pg. 4C

LENGTH: 687 words

HEADLINE: Rocks and hard places take a toll

BYLINE: BOB HARIG

BODY:

The next time you hear college administrators talk about the need for their coaches to graduate their players and recruit model citizens, think about this season of distress.

No fewer than 20 Division I-A coaches have resigned or been fired, and 15 of those have been forced out. The pressure to win is as great as ever. Win or be fired. But don't take any academic risks or bad apples.

It's a tough job, coaching, especially when the message from the top is mixed with so many conflicting signals.

Lou Holtz is leaving the Notre Dame job on his own, but it is no secret he was frustrated with the demands of winning and the tough standards he faced in recruiting players.

USC coach John Robinson is having to defend himself heading into tonight's season finale against Notre Dame. In his second stint at the school, Robinson is not winning enough - despite having taken the Trojans to the Rose Bowl last season.

In fact, USC has been Pac-10 co-champion twice and won the Cotton and Rose bowls in the past three seasons.

But the Trojans are 5-6 after an overtime loss to UCLA last week. Robinson has not defeated the Bruins or the Irish since his return to the school in 1993.

"I'm surprised he's in this position," USC senior linebacker Sammy Knight said. "He was 9-2-1 last year and now he's on the hot seat? That's ridiculous. We accept the fact high expectations were placed on us this year, but look at all the losses and you can see it was our inexperience.

"I would not have come to USC if it wasn't for John Robinson. I wasn't even planning a USC visit until he got the job."

USC senior quarterback Matt Koffler probably put it best when he said: "I used to want to coach. But to see (Robinson) going through this after the season we had last year, it turns me off. SC is not going to go to the Rose Bowl every year."

COSTLY LOSS: Ohio State coach John Cooper guaranteed himself a \$ 50,000 salary bonus because of the Buckeyes' trip to the Rose Bowl, and he can earn an additional \$ 10,000 if they finish the season ranked in the Top 10.

But Cooper saw a potential \$ 35,000 squandered with OSU's 13-9 loss to Michigan last week. He gets a \$ 10,000 bonus for defeating the Wolverines in a season with at least nine victories, and he earns a \$ 25,000 bonus if the Buckeyes win the national championship.

STRIKE A POSE: Iowa State running back Troy Davis popped up into a Heisman Trophy pose after diving into the end zone for a touchdown on a fourth-and-goal play in a 35-20 loss at Kansas State. The Cyclones trailed 21-9 af-

ter the touchdown and were penalized 15 yards for celebrating. Kansas State was given possession at the Iowa State 40 and scored in the final minute of the half.

The pose was out of character for Davis, who became the first back in NCAA history to rush for more than 2,000 yards in consecutive seasons. "Rushing for 2,000 yards twice is worth the penalty," he said.

"He deserves to do the pose," offensive tackle Tim Kohn said. "I'd be doing something like that, too."

NO THANKS: Among the many coaching openings is the one to replace Fresno State coach Jim Sweeney, who retired after 19 years at the school. Athletic director Al Bohl conducted interviews with 11 candidates, and he wanted to speak with Denver Broncos running backs coach and former Fresno State assistant Bobby Turner.

Although Turner was interested in the job, he turned down an opportunity to interview when he learned there were so many candidates for the job.

"I'm not going out for a token interview to fill a minority quota," said Turner, who is African-American. "Yes, I'd love to be their head coach. But, no, I'm not going through all that stuff. Bottom line is, if they wanted to hire me, they would have hired me in the first place."

Said Bohl: "It's an insult to Fresno State for a guy to make that point. The search committee has bent over backwards for every candidate. He's so far out of bounds, it's ridiculous."

- Information from other news organizations was used in this report.

GRAPHIC: BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO; John Robinson

LOAD-DATE: December 2, 1996

FOCUS - 6 of 33 DOCUMENTS

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Press Enterprise (Riverside, CA)

December 1, 1996 Sunday RIVERSIDE; ALL ZONES

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. C01

LENGTH: 1002 words

HEADLINE: Day of Otton-ment for USC;
The QB comes to the rescue of the Trojans and their coach, beating Notre Dame.

BYLINE: Joe Hamelin, The Press-Enterprise

BODY:

USC 27
Notre Dame 20
LOS ANGELES

Before halftime, his coach told him, "You're done. "

So Brad Otton, helped off the field on the Trojans' first possession, called an end run instead.

After an injection of pain-killer during intermission, and a merciless re-taping of his badly bruised ribs, the quarterback went to Mike Riley, the offensive coordinator, and begged his way onto the field - where, in his final game at USC, before 90,296 howling customers in the Coliseum, he spearheaded a pulse-stopping, back-from-the-dead, 27-20 overtime victory over 10th-ranked Notre Dame.

Otton played the game's first six plays, sat out the half's last six series, then returned and lit it up.

"I went around him rather than through him," said Otton. "I talked to Coach Riley. I never talked to Coach Robinson.

The victory, in spite of a 173-yard rushing performance by Notre Dame's Austin Denson, broke a 13-year USC winless streak against the Irish, kept intact John Robinson's record of never having coached a losing season (his team finished 6-6), and may have saved the embattled coach's job.

"We're not the issue," said Robinson, deflecting post-game attention. "It's the game, the teams, the schools, all those things that probably won't make the papers tomorrow. "

But Sammy Knight made it clear: the coach's job was a factor. "If they fired him, it would be a mistake," he said afterward.

Just to be sure, Knight made a team-high 14 tackles (three for losses), forced a fumble, recovered two (one led to a field goal; the other saved a touchdown), and had his first quarterback sack of the year.

The win ended, on the highest of notes, a thoroughly frustrating season for a young and inexperienced team that never caught a break until the season's last game, when a missed extra point opened the door for the Trojans.

Said Otton: "Even in the locker room, I kept thinking that someone was gonna pull us back out there and say there was a flag or somethin'."

The loss, before a national ABC-TV audience, jeopardizes the bowl hopes of 8-3 Notre Dame, and devastated retiring Coach Lou Holtz, who said he felt like someone "reached in and cut out my insides."

Otton has been there.

"Last week was the worst, watching my teammates lose in overtime without me," said the 6-foot-6 senior, 13 of 25 for 183 yards and two touchdowns, despite sitting out half the game. "I wasn't going to let that happen again."

Early in the fourth quarter, behind 14-6, things were so desperate for Robinson that he called a fake punt - which failed.

Freshman Chris Claiborne, a linebacker who hasn't played offense since his days at Riverside North, took a direct snap, bolted forward, and ran into a wall. Claiborne is tough. The 235-pounder moved the wall 3 yards. But it wasn't enough.

Notre Dame had the lead, the momentum, and the ball at USC's 29.

The game appeared over, right there.

Instead, USC held, and scored to pull within two. Notre Dame came right back with what appeared to be a putaway touchdown - until freshman kicker Jim Sanson blew the extra point.

Said Holtz: "The young man feels awful. He can't let it ruin his life."

But the Trojans were right back in business, and Otton went for the jugular.

With 4:29 to work with, he moved his club 67 yards in seven plays: a 7-yard throw to Mike Bastianelli, a 10-yard run by Delon Washington, an incomplete pass, 7- and 3-yard runs by Washington, a 15-yard pass to Chris Miller, and Washington's 15-yard run up the middle, into the end zone.

Then Washington worked the middle again, catching the Irish by surprise and lunging to break the plane for a two-point conversion, tying the game 20-20, and ultimately forcing the overtime.

Starting at the 25, Otton threw for 14 yards to Rodney Sermons, and for 7 to tight end John Allred. Washington lost a yard back to the 5, but on third down Otton threw a soft out to Sermons, who reached back for the ball, caught in, and spun for the goal, slipping through the tackle of A'Jani Sanders.

Then the Trojans snuffed four Irish plays for the victory, ruining the series when Knight and Chris Claiborne threw Denson for a 5-yard loss. Linebacker Mark Cusano cemented the win by blocking Ron Powlus' pass on fourth down.

Otton, playing in pain after last week's loss to UCLA, started the game wrapped up and shot up. That alone, Robinson said, was "courageous."

Blitzing on every down, Notre Dame knocked him out in six plays.

That quickly, the day belonged to fifth-year backup Matt Koffler; but there wasn't much he could do. The Trojans' Adam Abrams put up two field goals (30 and 39 yards). Notre Dame drove 65 yards with fullback Jamie Spencer, a 247-pound sophomore, bulling across from the 1. That was it, 7-6 Notre Dame, well past halftime.

Otton's first two possessions after halftime went nowhere. Then Notre Dame moved 48 yards in eight plays - scoring from 25 yards away when Powlus began to scramble and corner Kenny Haslip came up, leaving Cikai Champion alone in the end zone. It was now 14-6.

And when the fake punt fizzled, handing the Irish the ball at the SC 29, it seemed fatal.

Here, Knight saved the game. From the 34, Powlus found wideout Malcom Johnson, who gathered in the pass at the 15, turned upfield and headed for the end zone.

He almost made it.

Knight chased him down, wrapped him up, forced the ball loose, jumped up, and fell upon it at the USC 1.

SC pulled within 14-12 when Jim Wren's high, tumbling punt went right through Allen Rossum and to the Trojans, and Otton found Chris Miller with a bullet over the middle. Notre Dame came right back with a nine-play, 65-yard drive, Denson running 9 yards up the middle for the score and making it look easy. It was 20-12, with 3:52 left.

When Sanson pushed the extra-point try wide right - his sixth miss in 45 attempts this season - it seemed inconsequential.

GRAPHIC: PHOTOS [Caption] 1. William Wilson Lewis III; The Press-Enterprise; USC's Rodney Sermons dives for hte game-winning touchdown in overtime ahead of A'Jani Sanders. 2. William Wilson Lewis III; The Press-Enterprise; Rodney Sermons (5) is hoisted by USC teammate Mike Bastianelli after Sermons' winning touchdown. 3. William Wilson Lewis III; The Press-Enterprise; Willie Lowery (91) puts the hurt on Notre Dame quarterback Ron Powlus.

LOAD-DATE: July 16, 1997

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Los Angeles Times

December 2, 1996, Monday, Home Edition

SECTION: Sports; Part C; Page 1; Sports Desk

LENGTH: 635 words

HEADLINE: MIKE DOWNEY;
TROJAN HAPPINESS ARRIVES ON SCHEDULE

BYLINE: Mike Downey

BODY:

Fire Lou Holtz!

(I'm kidding. I'm kidding.)

Honestly, I am very happy today for everybody at the School Formerly Known as Southern Cal. Good things happen to those who wait.

Enjoy it while you can. The Trojans open next season Sept. 6 against Florida State, then travel Oct. 11 to Arizona State. These teams currently have a record of 22-0.

A week later, on Oct. 18, USC has a date at Notre Dame. But don't worry. SC never saw the day it couldn't beat a Bob Davie team.

I saw two games Saturday that represented everything great about college football. First came Florida versus Florida State, No. 1 against No. 2. Then came USC versus Notre Dame, rival against rival.

Nobody played for a paycheck. Guys played for love of school, teammate, coach, town, even state. They played because it mattered, to the rest of their lives.

I tuned my TV to the first game for one more look at Danny Wuerffel, the quarterback from Florida. My friends from the Downtown Athletic Club in New York keep sending cards, urging me: "Please Send in Your 1996 Heisman Ballot at Once!"

To vote for Wuerffel, the favorite, before his games against Florida State and Alabama seemed premature to me. It's like voting for Miss America after the swimsuit part, but before the talent.

Mainly, I saw Wuerffel flat on his back. He got gang-tackled by everyone from Florida State except Burt Reynolds.

I still might vote for him, however. He showed guts, under great pressure. And I really like that name, Wuerffel, which will come in handy if I get a puppy for Christmas.

Meanwhile, at a very old stadium 3,000 miles from Tallahassee, there was a game for the ages. What a night for Rodney Sermons, Delon Washington, Brad Otton, Sammy Knight and the rest of the Troy soldiers.

"We're 6-6! We're 6-6!"

OK, so it doesn't have the same ring as that chant at Florida State. What the heck. You take your thrills where you can find them.

Here are a few memories for USC's football faithful to hold sacred forever, from Saturday night's 27-20 keeper at the Coliseum:

MIKE DOWNEY; TROJAN HAPPINESS ARRIVES ON SCHEDULE Los Angeles Times Decem

--Notre Dame lost to a player named Sermons, sent to USC by Bishop Amat. Let me hear an "Amen."

--Who won this game? Washington won this game, with 1:50 to play, with his run for a two-point conversion. Those was the longest three yards of Delon's life. He dragged half the Notre Dame student body with him.

--If overtime hadn't been invented, SC's last win over Notre Dame would still be 1982's.

--On Washington's touchdown, guard Chris Brymer threw a block that wiped out several Irish players, several Trojan players, several tuba players, a song girl, a goal post, a stoplight at Figueroa and King, a bus bench and a '92 Ford Bronco on the freeway.

--Friday was Brymer's birthday.

--SC's offensive line, coached by Doug Smith, blew open huge holes all night.

--Last Monday, Smith turned 40.

--Mark Cusano, who knocked down the game's last pass, is "a quick, instinctive linebacker with a fine future," John Robinson said . . . before the season.

--I have seen players dive across the goal line. I have seen players plunge across the goal line. Chris Miller could be the first guy I ever saw sit across the goal line.

--M.U.P. (Most Unappreciated Player): Jim Wren, USC punter. He's all-conference in my book.

--Prentice Hill's penalty for grabbing a face mask almost killed USC near the end. But nearer the end, Hill made a big, big play on defense. He who laughs last, Prentice.

--Late in the game, Darrell Russell spent so much time in the Irish quarterback's face, he could have used that gold helmet for a mirror.

Did SC get a few breaks?

Maybe, but SC deserved a few breaks.

I trust John Robinson's coming back now. He could be the only coach in America, actually looking forward to playing Florida State.

LOAD-DATE: December 2, 1996

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Copyright 1996 Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service
Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service
The Orange County Register

December 3, 1996, Tuesday

SECTION: SPORTS

KR-ACC-NO: K8220

LENGTH: 389 words

HEADLINE: USC president says he never considered firing John Robinson

BYLINE: By SCOTT M. REID

BODY:

LOS ANGELES _ USC president Steven B. Sample said Monday night he never considered firing Trojans coach John Robinson during the recently completed 6-6 season.

Sample's comments, made during an impromptu news conference during halftime of Monday night's USC-Loyola-Marymount basketball game, came hours after Trojans athletic director Mike Garrett said he considered firing Robinson.

While saying he was "obviously disappointed with the football season," Sample said dismissing Robinson "never crossed my mind."

"We're a big place," Sample said. "We can afford to lose a few games without being hysterical."

Sample defended himself against criticism that his and Garrett's failure to publically support Garrett fueled speculation about Robinson's job security.

USC players had criticized Sample and Garrett on a daily basis for the past two weeks for what they maintained was the administration's failure to support Robinson and the program.

"I think what we really went through is really a deep philosophical debate on how I think the university should be run and how a bunch of writers think it should be run. I wasn't going to be stampeded or railroaded into making a (mid-season decision).

"My own personal feeling is SC did exactly the right thing."

Sample also complimented Garrett, who has been the source of almost constant controversy during his three-year tenure as athletic director.

"I'm very pleased with Mike Garrett's performance," Sample said. "I take the evaluation policy of those who report to me very seriously. My overall assesment of Mike Garrett is that he's done a fine job."

"I like the fact that he is so honest, maybe sometimes for public relations purposes too honest. I think Garrett understands the Trojan tradition. He's a great Trojan himself. He understands winning."

USC junior All-Pac-10 defensive tackle Darrell Russell will have a series of meetings with Robinson next week about whether Russell should enter the NFL draft a year early.

Robinson will call NFL coaches and front office personel this week to get a clearer picture on where Russell is projected in the draft. ... Trojans All-Pac-10 linebacker Sammy Knight, tight end John Allred, wide receiver Chris Miller and quarterback Brad Otton have been selected to play in the Hula Bowl.

USC president says he never considered firing John Robinson The Orange C

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JOURNAL-CODE: OC

LOAD-DATE: October 13, 1999

FOCUS - 1015 of 1757 DOCUMENTS

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Orlando Sentinel (Florida)

December 5, 1996 Thursday, METRO

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. C3

LENGTH: 710 words

HEADLINE: ELWAY HELPS BRONCOS FOCUS ON A TITLE RUN

BYLINE: Charean Williams of the Sentinel staff

BODY:

Denver Broncos quarterback John Elway knows what it means to play in the Super Bowl. He just doesn't know the euphoria of winning it.

Elway has 36 fourth-quarter comebacks. He has money. He has an

NFL MVP award. He has a free pass into the Hall of Fame. He does not have a Super Bowl championship ring.

"That's one of the things that quarterbacks are always judged on," Elway said. "If I don't win it, will I look back at it and say, 'My career is not complete'? No. As long as I can say when I walk away from this game that I did everything I possibly could to win the Super Bowl, I'll be happy with it. It's everybody's goal in this league to win a Super Bowl, so I'd love to be a world champion."

Elway has played in three Super Bowls. The Broncos lost to the New York Giants, Washington Redskins and San Francisco 49ers by a combined 136-40.

Elway's best chance might be this year. Besides Elway, the 1996 Broncos have the NFL's leading rusher, Terrell Davis, and the league's sack leader, Alfred Williams.

"We're definitely a better offensive team (than the three Super Bowl teams)," Elway said. "We have a lot more balance. . . . As a whole, talentwise, we're probably a little bit better. But we've got a long, long way to go. I remember my second year, we were 13-3 and had home-field advantage going into the playoffs. We lost in the first round to Pittsburgh. I've been to a Super Bowl. I know how much work it takes to get there. We've got a long way to go."

Take that, Pittsburgh. Former Steelers bad boys Eric Green and Bam Morris got revenge on their old team Sunday when the Baltimore Ravens upset Pittsburgh, 31-17. After catching a 3-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter, Green danced, pointed and yelled at Pittsburgh's bench. Green, who has been critical of Steelers coach Bill Cowher, said his antics were directed at injured linebacker Greg Lloyd. "I was heckling Greg Lloyd," Green said. "I wasn't saying nothing to Bill Cowher. I figured the only reason Lloyd was here was to fire up a victory cigar after this one." Morris, who left the Steelers after his arrest for drug possession during the off-season, became the first back to gain 100 yards on the Steelers this season. "I don't have any hard feelings about the Steelers," Morris said. "They made their decision."

If Billy Joe Hobert doesn't make it as a quarterback, he might take up punting. Hobert again was forced into duty as the Oakland Raiders' emergency punter. Starting punter Jeff Gossett has missed the past two games with a rib injury. The Raiders signed Rich Camarillo before Sunday's game against the Miami Dolphins, but Camarillo injured his groin during pregame warmups. Hobert, who punted in high school and college, watched his first punt go 25 yards, but he ended up averaging 41.7 yards on seven kicks. Camarillo already has been waived, and Gossett might want to hurry back.

ELWAY HELPS BRONCOS FOCUS ON A TITLE RUN Orlando Sentinel (Florida) Dece

When Houston Oilers coach Jeff Fisher was a defensive back at Southern California, a local kid in Los Angeles used to hang around his apartment complex and carry his helmet to practice. After leaving USC, Fisher went 10 years without hearing from the kid. "I got on the phone, and he said, 'Hey, this is Keyshawn.' I said, 'Who?' and he said, 'Keyshawn. Keyshawn Johnson. I'm playing football in junior college, and I think I have a chance to go to SC,'" Fisher said. "I asked him how big he was, and when he told me 6-2, I couldn't believe it. Now look at him. He's going to be an impact player for a long time."

BRIEFLY: When an NFL-record 55,985 did not show up at Giants Stadium for the Houston Oilers' 35-10 victory over the New York Jets, \$1.4 million in tickets went unused. . . . If the New England Patriots beat the New York Jets on Sunday, they would finish with a 9-3 record against AFC opponents. That would give New England the advantage in a tiebreaker. . . . If the Steelers win the AFC Central, they would become the first division winner since the 1970 NFL-AFL merger to lose all four division road games. The Steelers also won the division in 1984 with an 0-3 record in division road games. . . . New York Giants coach Dan Reeves has guaranteed his first back-to-back non-winning records in 31 seasons as an NFL player, assistant and head coach.

COLUMN: NFL Report

LOAD-DATE: December 5, 1996

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Los Angeles Times

December 7, 1996, Saturday, Home Edition

SECTION: Sports; Part C; Page 3; Sports Desk

LENGTH: 543 words

HEADLINE: NOTRE DAME STREAK NO LONGER DOGS USC

BODY:

Don't look now, but Notre Dame has beaten USC only once in the last three years.

TEX WALL

Burbank

*

Well, what do you know? That 13-year-old Notre Dame dog finally passed away from old age.

J. ANTHONY SMITH

Dana Point

*

There is a God! And through the overtime rule in college football, he will always remind Notre Dame you play to win.

ED SAADE

Poway

*

Take a hike to the 10,000 Trojan fans who left the game after Notre Dame scored its last touchdown. Those are probably the same 10,000 who wanted John Robinson fired before the kickoff.

K. KENDRICK

Torrance

*

It took 14 years and a complete overhaul of the rules of college football, but USC finally managed to squeak out a victory over Notre Dame.

Congratulations to this year's team, and I look forward to their next victory over the Irish in 2010.

CARLO PANNO

Tarzana

*

When Alabama used to lose close games, Bear Bryant would say, "We just ran out of time."

That may well have been part of USC's problem with Notre Dame the past decade.

NOTRE DAME STREAK NO LONGER DOGS USC Los Angeles Times December 7, 1996,

JIM HULGAN

Azusa

*

It's me fault! Me fell from the bloomin' goal pipe!

(Lou the Leprechaun after watching the PAT go wide)

JOE CASTILLO

Lomita

*

USC beat Notre Dame on Nov. 30, 1974, in Ara Parseghian's last regular-season game. Now Lou Holtz is leaving with a loss to USC. I screamed, lost my voice and rejoiced in '74, and I'm glad to have been in the Coliseum in '96.

ANNA K. WONG

Flintridge

*

My fellow USC fans seemed to take a great deal of pleasure in how our team made Lou Holtz's last game "his worst defeat ever." That is no reason to cheer. The defeat also cost Notre Dame \$ 8 million because they could not receive an alliance bowl berth. Now there's a reason to cheer!

Perhaps someday we can do the same for UCLA.

CRAIG ROHAN

Los Angeles

*

After reading columns from Mike Downey bashing the Trojans and John Robinson, I awaited what he would have to say after USC played courageous and timely football on Saturday.

Did we get, "I'm sorry?" How about, "I pounded the nails in Robinson's coffin and started jumping on the lid too soon?"

No, he tried to divert and digress by waxing eloquent about what a wonderful day of college football it had been all across our fair land.

Thankfully, I have now seen Downey for what he is and will line the bottom of my trash can with his writings, in the future, unread. Fight On! Long live USC and pray for an overhaul of the ND Times sports staff.

JERRY LYLES

Hesperia

*

My first question, "Will John Robinson be rehired?" has already been answered, which leads to my second question:

"How early in 1997 will the coach be predicting a national championship?"

DICK SABO

Buena Park

*

Even the blind squirrel finds the acorn sometimes. Big deal. SC finally backs into a win after 13 years, courtesy of four turnovers and a missed PAT by the Irish. They act like they've won the national championship.

STEVEN F. MARELLA

NOTRE DAME STREAK NO LONGER DOGS USC Los Angeles Times December 7, 1996,

Santa Paula

*

I have been a devout Notre Dame fan since the day I was born.

I now work with two people from Ohio, and I live next door to March Air Force Base here in Southern California.

And you think you've got problems.

JOHN PAUL WHITE

Moreno Valley

LOAD-DATE: December 7, 1996

Copyright 1996 Orange County Register
Orange County Register (California)

December 9, 1996 Monday MORNING EDITION

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. C17

LENGTH: 596 words

HEADLINE: UCLA stuns USC to win NCAA water polo championship;
COLLEGES: Bruins goalkeeper Swanson makes 14 saves to spark an 8-7 upset victory over the top-ranked Trojans.

BYLINE: SCOTT M. REID, The Orange County Register

DATeline: LA JOLLA, CA

BODY:

In the middle of the celebration, UCLA goalkeeper Matt Swanson swam over to a stuffed toy Bruin that a USC fan had tossed into the pool and lifted it triumphantly from the water. Another save.

Swanson kept UCLA's unlikely defense of its NCAA water polo title out of rough waters all Sunday afternoon, his 14 saves the difference in the Bruins' 8-7 upset of top-ranked USC in the NCAA Final Four championship game at Canyonview Pool on the UC San Diego campus.

UCLA (24-6), loser of three in a row to the Trojans and a question mark for the Final Four only a week ago after a 7-4 loss to UC Irvine, jumped to a 6-3 first-period lead then placed the match in Swanson's capable hands.

USC (23-3) outshot UCLA, 37-13, but couldn't find a way past Swanson, the Final Four's MVP.

"We're having a great time with this one because we've struggled so much this season," Bruin coach Guy Baker said.

"Obviously, Matt Swanson was the key. "

"This is probably the sweetest victory I've ever had, because we were the underdogs and everybody thought SC would win," Swanson said. "Nobody gave us a chance. I wouldn't have given us a chance the way SC was beating up on people. They looked unbeatable. "

Indeed, even with Swanson in the UCLA goal, USC looked as if it still might pull out a victory in the closing seconds. With less than 20 seconds remaining in regulation and the Trojans' with a six-on-five advantage, USC's Marko Zagar, on the right wing, threw the ball to an open Hrvoje Cizmich in front of the UCLA goal. As Cizmich turned to fire, the ball slipped out of his hand and wide of an open net. USC converted on just 1 of 6 six-on-five situations; UCLA was 4 of 7.

UCLA stuns USC to win NCAA water polo championship; COLLEGES: Bruins goal

"The play developed perfectly," USC coach John Williams said.

"From my angle it looked like 5-feet of goal was open. "

"I don't know how he missed that shot," Swanson said. "I'll never know how he missed that shot. I couldn't even believe it when I saw it go off. "

"I can't explain it, I make that shot 99 out of 100 times," Cizmich said. "The ball just slipped from my hand. "

With it went USC's final chance at erasing its image as the Buffalo Bills of college water polo. Sunday's loss was the Trojans' fifth in an NCAA championship match since 1983, its third in the past four seasons. A year ago, USC was top-ranked for most of the season only fail to make the Final Four.

"This team was our best team of the '90s," Williams said.

"The way we lost today has got to be the most difficult of the five losses. It is by far the most difficult and the most frustrating of the five losses. "

There had been plenty of frustration at Westwood this season as well.

"We couldn't seem to get it right all year," Swanson said.

Much of the blame had been directed at Swanson, the national college player of the year and Final Four MVP last year. A devout Deadhead, Swanson dedicated UCLA's 1995 championship to his idol, Jerry Garcia, the late Grateful Dead guitarist. Before this season he nearly walked away from the sport.

"I've had a change of interests, a change of desire," Swanson said. "The way I've evolved as a person, athletics really isn't important to me. I nearly quit a couple times this year. Coach and I were battling all year. "

And it showed. A year ago Swanson had a 6.94 goals against average. In one four-match stretch late in this season, he averaged 9.5.

"I haven't played like that all season," Swanson said. "My head hadn't really been into it. Until today. "

LOAD-DATE: December 13, 1996

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Orange County Register (California)

December 31, 1996 Tuesday MORNING EDITION

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. D06

LENGTH: 636 words

HEADLINE: RAISING ARIZONA (STATE);
COLLEGE FOOTBALL: Von der Ahe has helped the Sun Devils' rise to national prominence.

BYLINE: SCOTT M. REID, The Orange County Register

DATELINE: GLENDORA, CA

BODY:

Scott Von der Ahe still remembers the puzzled looks on people's faces, like he was talking about going to another planet. Somewhere lost in a galaxy far, far away lurks

Arizona State?

"Yeah, I'd tell people back home in Orange County that I was going to Arizona State and people would say, 'Arizona State? What! '" Von der Ahe, a senior inside linebacker for the Sun Devils, recalled this week. "They'd go, 'Is Arizona State in the Pac-10? 'Where's Arizona State? '"

Where?

Try the Rose Bowl, where Pac-10 champion and second-ranked Arizona State plays Big Ten co-champ Ohio State for a possible piece of the national championship.

"They know where Arizona State is now," Von der Ahe said, laughing.

Von der Ahe and the Sun Devils' Orange County connection have played a leading role in putting Arizona State into a place of prominence on the college football map with the season's most improbable success story. Von der Ahe, a graduate of Mission Viejo High School and Saddleback College, was the leading tackler on a Sun Devils defense that led the Pac-10 in total, scoring, rushing and passing defense.

Junior second team All-Pac-10 guard Kyle Murphy, out of Edison High, teamed with All-America tackle Juan Roque on the left side of the ASU front for the most dominant one-two offensive line punch in the Pac-10 if not the country.

Across the line at right defensive end, sophomore Derrick Ford (Mater Dei) is a key backup and the heir apparent to Derrick Rodgers, an All-Pac-10 selection. Redshirt freshman Ryan Reilly (Valencia) could also see action against the Buckeyes on the

RAISING ARIZONA (STATE); COLLEGE FOOTBALL: Von der Ahe has helped the Sun

defensive line.

"Arizona State wouldn't be here right now without California, and Orange County is a big part of that," said ASU offensive coordinator Dan Cozzetto, the Sun Devils' primary recruiter in Orange County.

"Every year Orange County really turns out a lot of great players," Arizona State coach Bruce Snyder said. "Orange County has always been a plucking ground for SC and UCLA so for us to get a foothold in Orange County is really significant."

Neither Murphy nor Von der Ahe were recruited by USC or UCLA out of high school. That was just fine with Murphy, who grew up in Portland where USC and UCLA are about as popular as the IRS.

"I never wanted to go to either one of those schools," Murphy said. "Coming from Portland I never liked SC or UCLA. Those were always the schools we loved to hate."

For Von der Ahe, however, the snub was devastating.

"I grew up a big SC fan," he said. "I always wanted to play for SC. I loved everything about SC. The tradition. The colors. I even love that little song they play every 15 seconds. SC was pretty much it for me."

But coming out of Mission Viejo, Von der Ahe wasn't it for the Trojans or any other Division I-A school. "I got one letter, from South Dakota State," he said. "I ripped it up and threw it away." So Von der Ahe stayed home, helping Saddleback win the 1992 junior college national championship and earning JUCO All-America honors in 1993. USC still wasn't interested. Von der Ahe signed with Iowa but left after six months homesick. In Tempe, Von der Ahe finally found a home.

He was the Sun Devils' defensive MVP in 1995, posting a team-high 92 tackles. This season Von der Ahe posted 106 stops to rank among the Pac-10's top five tacklers. Yet again Von der Ahe was snubbed, receiving only honorable mention All-Pac-10 honors from the conference coaches.

"That's a travesty that Scott wasn't All-Pac-10," Snyder said.

"He was the leading tackler on the best defense in the Pac-10.

There's no way you can explain his not making All-Pac-10. To me he's one of the best linebackers in the country."

GRAPHIC: BLACK & WHITE PHOTO; ROSE-BOUND; Guard Kyle Murphy, in action above against UCLA, is a prominent member of Arizona State's large Orange County contingent. (O'LEARY) At right, Edison High grad Murphy and teammates Mike Barnes and Juan Roque share barbecue small talk with TV reporter Vic Lombardi after a Rose Bowl practice. (AP); VON DER AHE; Leading tackler

LOAD-DATE: January 07, 1997

Opposition No. 91125615


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